

Hantavirus Control and Ecology

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**Division of High Consequence Pathogens and Pathology
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious
Disease**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta



- I. **Introduction**
- II. HPS prevention: Clean up, trap up, seal up
- III. Who is the Viral Special Pathogens Branch?
- IV. Hantavirus/HPS refresher
- V. Yosemite HPS 2012
- VI. Health education collaborations with Diné College
- VII. Next steps

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HPS Prevention

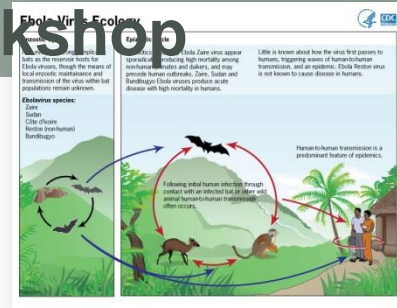
- Clean Up
 - Use gloves and disinfectant to clean up rodents, droppings, or nesting materials
 - Well-ventilated space
- Trap Up
 - Snap traps located properly
- Seal Up
 - Reduce rodent access to buildings, eliminate harborage sites
 - *Most important intervention for prevention*



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Who is the Viral Special Pathogens Branch (VSPB)?

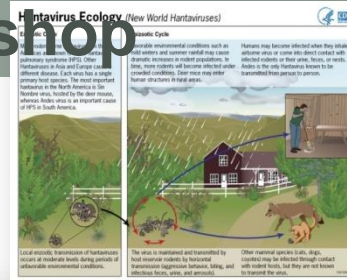


- Provides epidemic aid and conducts epidemiologic studies on the detection, prevention, and control of outbreaks of highly hazardous viral diseases;
- provides primary isolation, identification, and characterization of highly hazardous disease agents that require biosafety level 3 or biosafety level 4 laboratory conditions for their safe handling;
- develops, evaluates, and improves methods for treatment, prevention, and laboratory diagnosis of hazardous disease agents;
- conducts laboratory, clinical, and epidemiologic investigations on the pathogenesis, pathophysiology, and prevention of viral infections caused by highly hazardous viruses;
- provides consultation on the clinical and epidemiologic management of suspected cases and/or epidemics of these diseases;
- consults with national and international scientists on the design, staffing, and efficient operation of a high hazard pathogen laboratory program;
- serves as a WHO Collaborating Center for Virus Reference and Research for Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers; and
- **develops and evaluates health education programs for educating the general public and health professionals about infection, treatment, infection control in clinical settings, prevention, and laboratory diagnosis of highly hazardous viral diseases.**



2014 Arizona Vector Control Workshop

Who is VSPB?



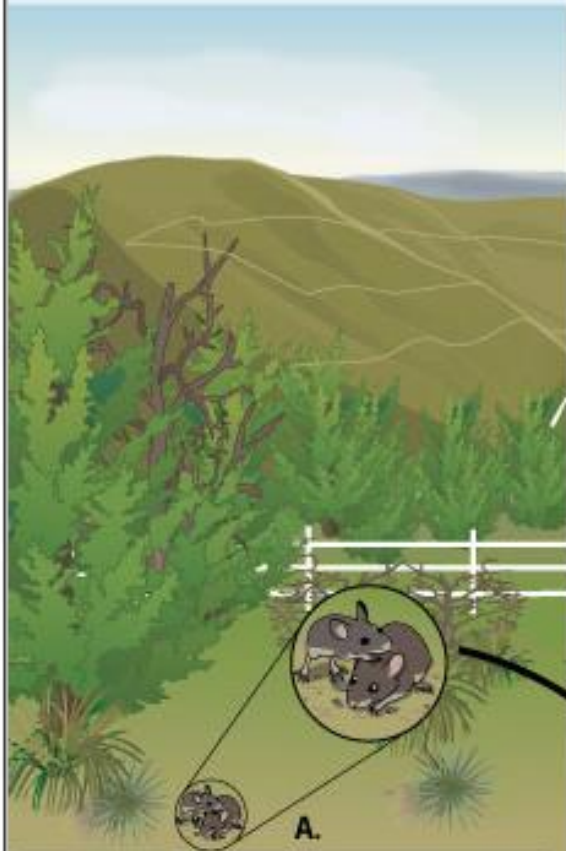
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Hanta Virus Ecology



Enzootic Cycle

Many hantaviruses are known to cause hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS). Each virus has a single primary host. The most important hantavirus in the US is the Sin Nombre virus, hosted by the deer mouse.

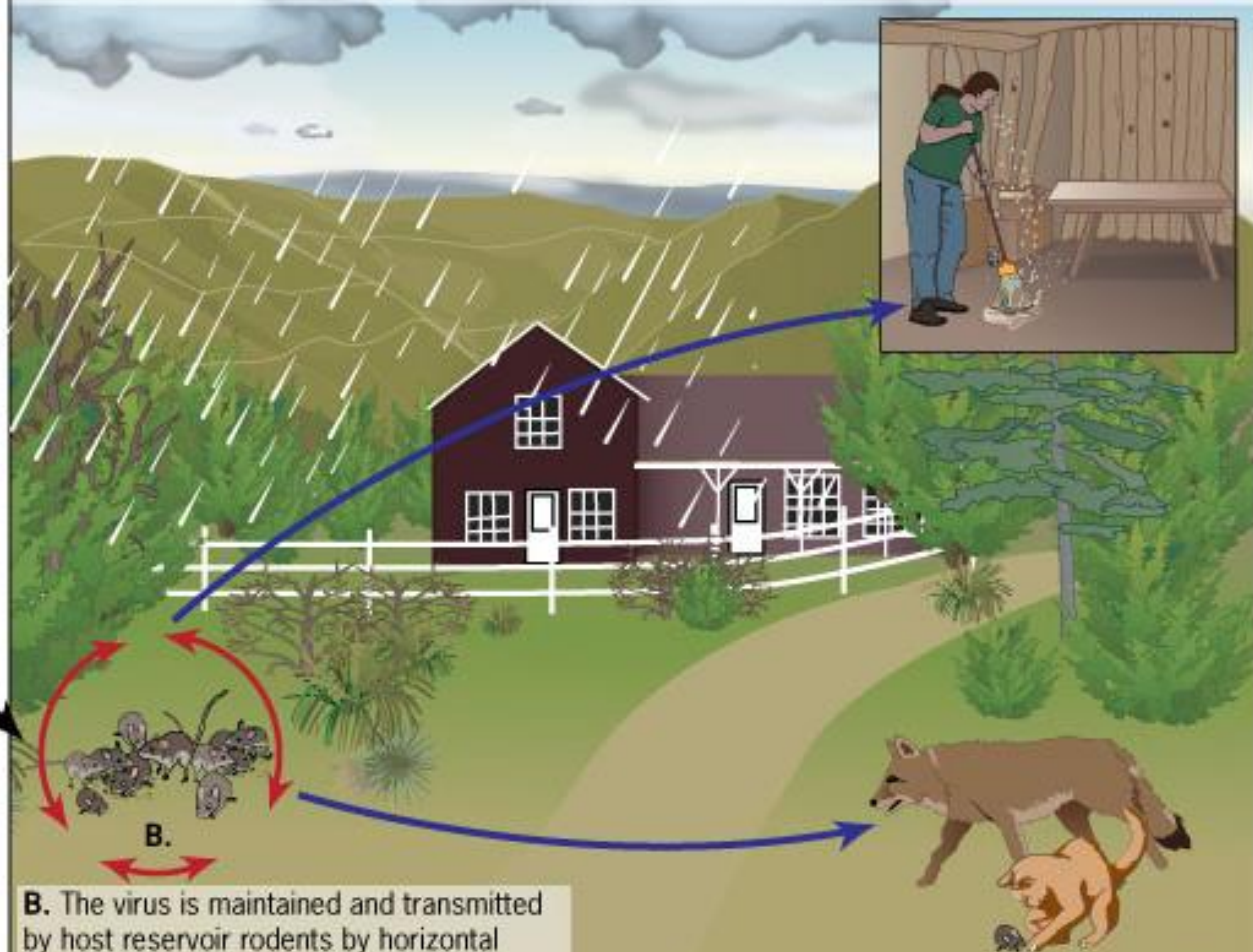


A. Local enzootic transmission of hantaviruses occurs at low levels during periods of unfavorable environmental conditions.

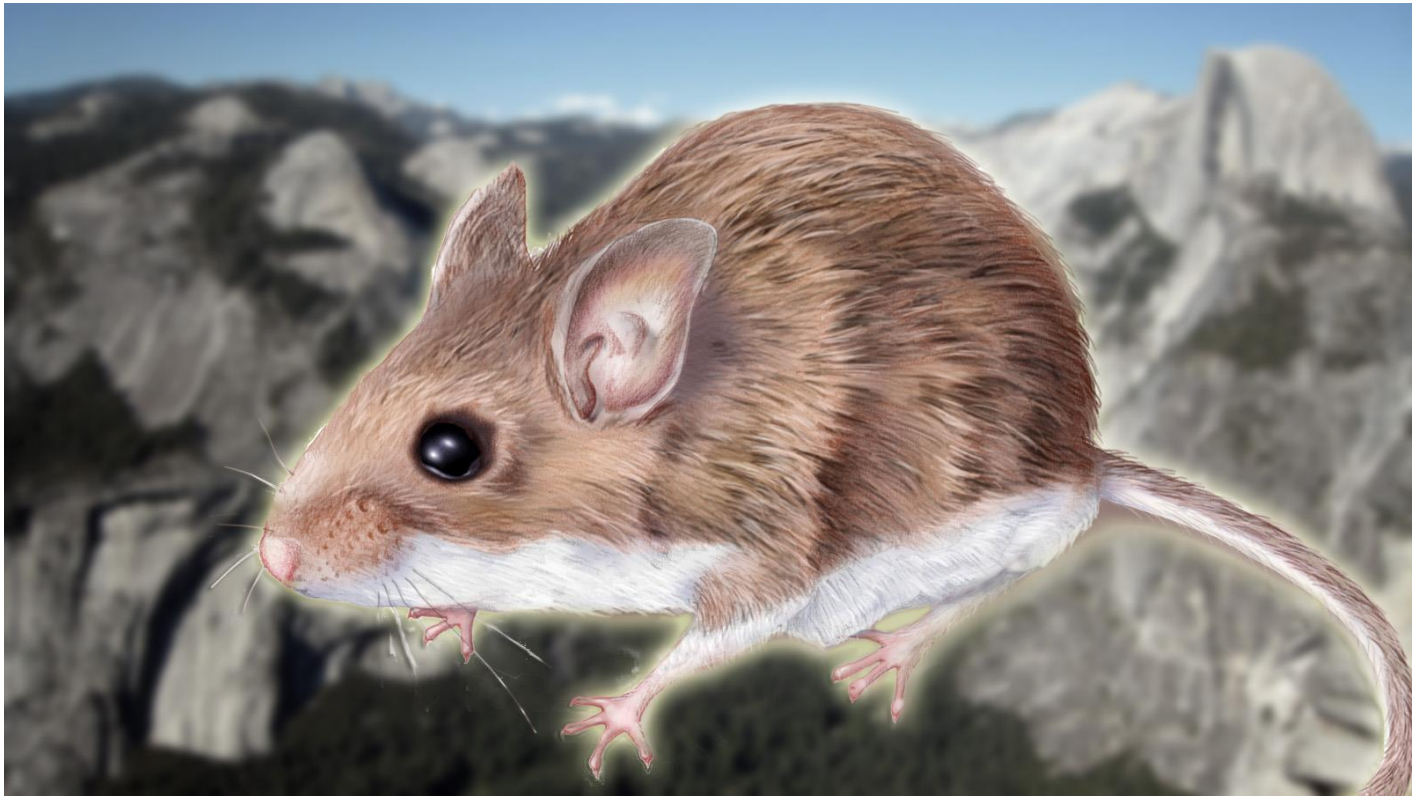
Epizootic Cycle

Favorable environmental conditions such as mild winters and summer rainfall may cause dramatic increases in rodent populations. More rodents become infected under crowded conditions. Deer mice may enter human structures in rural areas. Humans may become

infected when they inhale airborne virus or come into direct contact with infected rodents or their urine, feces, or nests. Other mammal species (cats, dogs, coyotes) may be infected through contact with rodent hosts, but they are not known to transmit the virus.



B. The virus is maintained and transmitted by host reservoir rodents by horizontal transmission (aggressive behavior, biting).



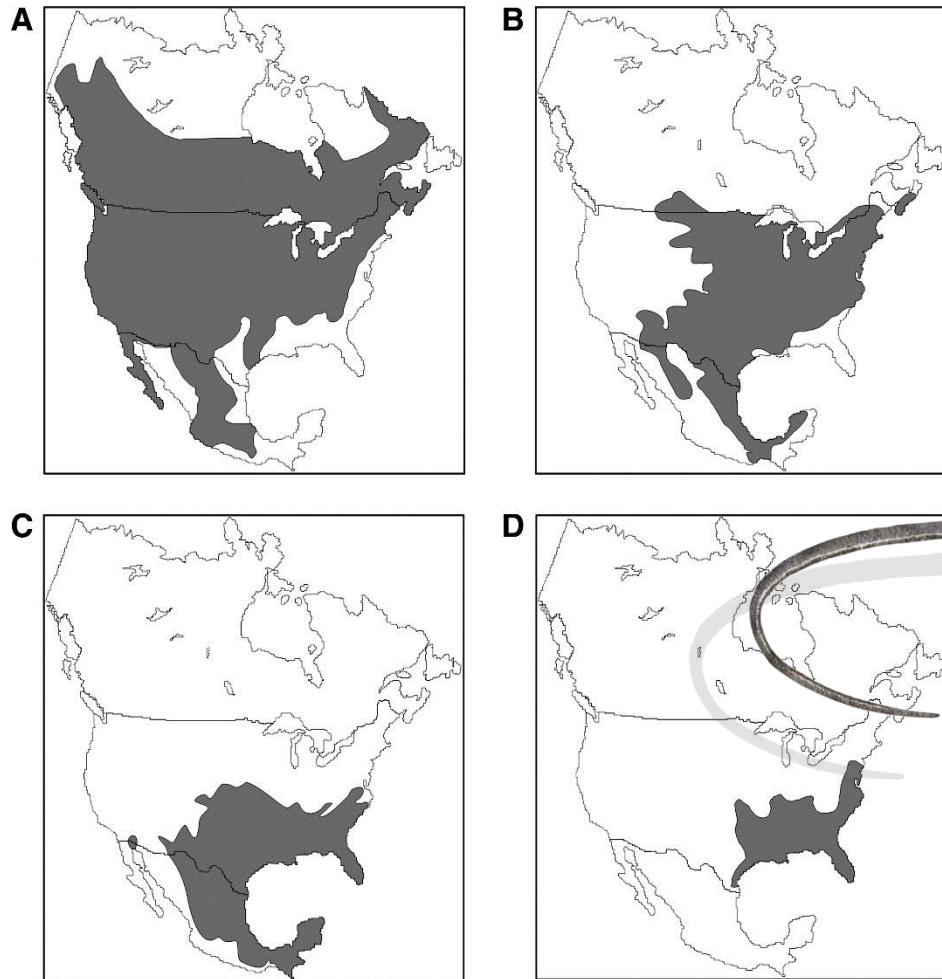
Deer mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*)

Carries **Sin Nombre hantavirus**

Virus shed in urine, feces, and saliva

Human infection occurs through inhalation of aerosolized excreta and via direct contact from rodent bites

Distribution of hantavirus reservoirs



- A. Deer mouse (Sin Nombre virus)
- B. White-footed mouse (New York virus)
- C. Hispid cotton rat (Black Creek Canal virus)
- D. Rice rat (Bayou virus)

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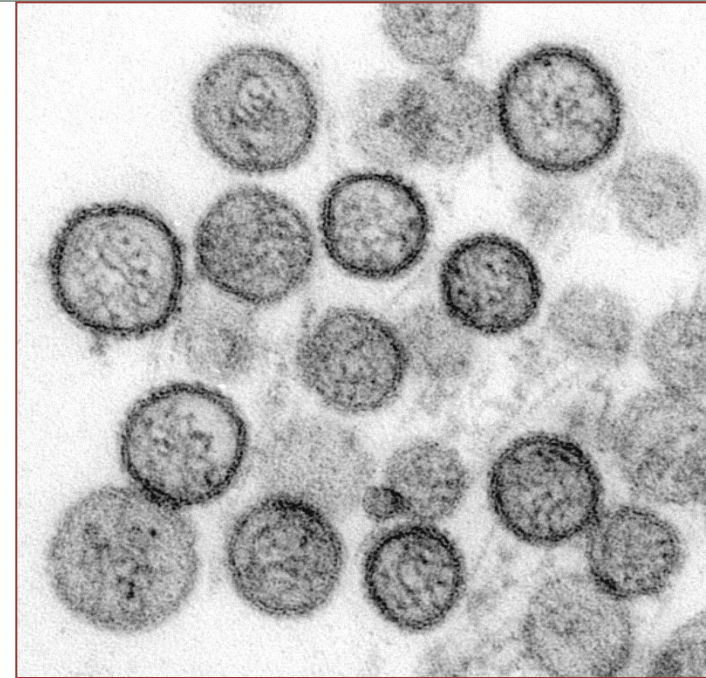
1993 Hantavirus Outbreak in Four Corners area

Scientific success story:

- New virus discovered (1993)
- Rodent reservoir identified (Deer mouse)
- Public health measures/education

Human tragedy:

- 32 deaths
- Disruption
- Stigmatization
- Lingering mistrust



Secret CIA files reveal ... GERM WARFARE TEST ACCIDENT KILLED NAVAJO INDIANS

THE MYSTERY disease ravaging Indians in the Southwest was triggered by a vicious germ warfare virus captured from Iraq during the Gulf War — and unleashed by the CIA!

An EXAMINER probe has exposed shocking evidence that the Central Intelligence Agency secretly spread the virus through Indian reservations to test its potency and set the stage for the development of a vaccine against it.

In a world-exclusive interview, a CIA source reveals: "The never-divulged capture of Saddam Hussein's germ warfare arsenal during Operation Desert Storm gave the agency the idea to mount its secret test program in some of America's low-population areas.

"These tests were intended to help the U.S. develop new vaccines against the horrible viral weapons.

"Nobody at the agency ever dreamed that the virus would prove totally resistant to all known vaccines.

"Now, there's a real fear that this whole program is about to become out of control. The desk jockies in Washington never thought the virus would start striking innocent men, women and children on the Navajo lands."

The mystery illness, referred to as unknown respiratory distress syndrome — URDS for short — is blamed for at least 13 deaths in four Western states.

Medical investigators from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, the Indian Health Service, and state health departments have fanned out across the Navajo nation in search of clues to the killer.

Theories on the cause in-



DOUBLE TRAGEDY — Above: A young woman sobs over the death of her Navajo fiancé while his mom offers support. At left: Another woman comforts her sister at an Indian hospital



clude everything from contaminated water to a virus found in rat droppings. And while the debate rages, panic grows.

More than 600 calls an hour are coming in to area hotlines from frightened residents of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Utah.

"They're desperate for information about the disease, which begins with flu symptoms but quickly progresses to respiratory failure — and eventually death.

"It would be the perfect germ warfare virus," admits an expert with the United Nations. "It's similar enough to conventional flu, so it doesn't raise any red flags

when the epidemic begins. "But it's resistant to treatment, so it could take a heavy toll."

It wouldn't be the first time the U.S. government has subjected its citizens to the ravages of germ warfare. The EXAMINER has learned.

"Americans have been exposed to germ warfare tests in the name of scientific research — and Congress was fully informed of the experiments," explains Norm Covert, a spokesman for the Army's Medical and Research Command at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

"But we were very careful during these experiments," insists Covert, who works in

the office where vaccines and antitoxins against potential biological weapons are constantly being developed and tested.

"The U.S. Army secretly sprayed clouds of bacteria over the San Francisco Bay area. The germs were released from a gun-like device attached to the back of a ship.

"Although the germs used were not considered harmful, one man, Edward Nevin, died mysteriously afterward. His family claims that he died as a result of our experiment."

Dr. Sanford Kuvin, a renowned expert in infectious disease research, confirms: "The government has secretly tested germ warfare on millions of innocent Americans in crowded locations throughout the country.

"We were helplessly bombed with germs without our knowledge by our own people — and that's scary," says Kuvin, of West Palm Beach, Florida. "These toxic substances can cause death and disease in whole populations within minutes."

— MARTIN PETERS

'Congress was informed of similar experiments'

June 28, 1995/EXAMINER 7

TION

The Atlanta Journal / The Atlanta Constitution

TODAY'S FOCUS: HANTAVIRUS

Killer may have spread across U.S. unrecognized

New clues widen range of infection

By Mike Toner
STAFF WRITER

The virus responsible for this year's deadly outbreak of respiratory disease in the Southwest may have been causing sporadic, unrecognized cases of the disease throughout the United States for years, researchers reported Thursday.

With a precise new genetic description of the rodent-borne virus, scientists at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say they have confirmed scattered cases of the often-fatal hantavirus pulmonary syndrome in at least 12 states, some of which occurred as early as mid-1991.

New evidence, described by CDC researchers in three forums over the last week, paints a very different picture of the mysterious "Four Corners virus" from the initial suspicion that it was some mutant new disease that suddenly began running amok in the desert Southwest.

"The general feeling now is that this virus has been present in wild rodent populations for a long time," says Stuart T. Nichol, chief of the CDC's molecular biology section, where the genetic structure of the virus is being mapped. "It is likely that it has been an agent of human disease — an unnoticed one — for quite a while."

In addition to helping researchers track the disease, knowledge of its genetic signature also is urgently needed to

Tracking a deadly virus

Since the hantavirus was discovered, 42 cases linked to the deer mouse have been confirmed nationwide. The deer mouse isn't found in most of the Southeast, but other rodents could be carrying the virus here.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

RANDALL GRANT / Staff

Deadly ills test public health net

By Mike Toner
STAFF WRITER

Events have overtaken predictions by the U.S. Institute of Medicine, made barely a year ago, that the country is increasingly vulnerable to the emergence of deadly new diseases and resurgent old ones.

Although the hantavirus outbreak in the Southwest has grabbed most of the headlines, officials at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say it is only one of the "emerging diseases" to test the U.S. public health system this year.

In an article in the journal Science, James M. Hughes, director of the CDC's National Center for Infectious Diseases, and other senior officials warn

been firmly linked to the death of one person in Louisiana — and a suspected case of the disease in Mississippi.

Armed with the genetic signature of the viruses, health authorities are in the midst of a nationwide survey to see how widely hantaviruses occur. The CDC is testing 5,000 blood and tissue samples a month for signs of the viruses.

Because the major animal reservoir of the virus, the deer mouse, is one of the most abundant small mammals in the country, researchers say it may be present anywhere deer mice are found. Deer mice occur from the shores of Canada's Hudson Bay to the mountains of central Mexico.

"As we encounter more and more cases, the gaps in the map are filling in," says C.J. Peters, director of the CDC's special pathogens branch. "There is probably more virus out there than we can imagine."

But deer mice aren't the only carriers. In the Southwest, the virus has been detected in chipmunks and rabbits. And because deer mice do not occur in most of

No answers as more fall to mystery illness

By KAREN PETERSON
The New Mexican

State and federal public health officials remain baffled by a flu-like syndrome that claimed a 10th victim Saturday and sent three more people to the hospital over the weekend.

More than 50 members of the Indian Health Service, working with community volunteers, have spread over the Navajo reservation and other areas of northwestern New Mexico and northern Arizona in search of a common link between victims.

But Sunday, they still had no such links, nor could they yet say whether the victims had sickened or died after exposure to a toxic substance or as a result of an infectious disease.

"We've done a complete review of known toxins and infectious agents and none really fit," said Dr. Gary Simpson, a state medical investigator.

"We're dealing with either a new agent or a very, very unusual manifestation of a known disease."

The syndrome, identified by acute respiratory distress, appears to be striking young, healthy people in the

Four Corners area, most of them American Indian. Margaret Gallager of the state Health Department said that of 25 known victims of the disease, 19 are Indians, most of them Navajo. Five of the victims were Anglo and one was Hispanic. Of the 10 dead, only one was not an Indian.

Three investigators from the national Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta have arrived in New Mexico to help with the search for a cause for the syndrome. State epidemiology and public health officials have been in contact with the center since first noticing the syndrome after the deaths of a Navajo couple earlier this month.

Thirteen samples from several of the victims are being tested in Atlanta for evidence of DNA related to various rare disease agents. Dr. Jay Butler of the CDC said Sunday that results from the tests are expected within the next couple of days.

The latest victim of the illness was a 13-year-old girl, who collapsed at a party Friday and died Saturday in Gallup.

Symptoms of the illness, which mimics the common cold or flu, include muscle aches, headache, fever and conjunctivitis.

Two other people were diagnosed with the illness Friday and were taken to the University of New Mexico Hospital in Albuquerque.

A hospital spokesman said Sunday that two more patients suspected of having contracted the illness had been admitted. Public health officials said the total number of victims of the illness remains at 25 — about the same number as reported Friday —

Girls say no more 'boys will be boys'

The Associated Press

The tears and loud cries started at noon as the girls left home in the morning, leaving their parents and friends behind. The girls, who were in the 10th grade, were leaving for a summer camp. They were crying because they were saying goodbye to their friends and family. They were also crying because they were saying goodbye to their parents. They were saying, "No more boys will be boys."



In honor of women veterans

Panel to urge massive cuts in logging

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Government scientists will recommend that President Clinton reduce timber harvests in the Northwest's ancient forests by at least 60 percent from what they were in the mid-1980s, administration officials say.

None of the alternatives the scientists are devising would let loggers cut more than 2 billion board-feet of wood a year from national forests in Oregon and Washington, said one official, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

Desert Mystery: Death Toll at 10

"We have not been able to identify any place where people have gone or any gathering in common. Nothing really fits..."

— Dr. Ron Vorhees

It's an Epidemic, But 'Nothing Fits' Illness May Not Be 'Highly Contagious,' State Doctor Says

How Scientists Are Searching For the Cause

Here are some of the types of microbiological tests being used:

LAB ANIMAL TESTING

Inject blood and tissue samples directly into laboratory animals that are susceptible to microorganisms, including, chlamydia, streptococcus and other microbes.

BACTERIAL IDENTIFICATION

Culture plates for growth of bacteria.

VIRUS DETECTION

Cell cultures to detect viruses.

ANTIBODY TESTS

Large amount of antibody to a specific bacterium or virus indicates a recent infection with that agent.

POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION TEST

Large amount of microbial DNA is produced in enough quantity to compare to major families of microorganisms.

FIELD SURVEY

The Four Corners mystery illness officially became an epidemic last week, and its source remains unknown. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta are working to identify the cause of the illness. The state health department is also working to identify the cause of the illness. The state health department is also working to identify the cause of the illness.

Desert Mystery

Rodent Virus Suspected in Illness

Report Called Preliminary But Possibly Important Breakthrough

Plague Sleuth Called Back To Give Info On Rodents

By Leslie Littlehorn
Journal Staff Writer

Ted L. Brown was called into the mystery disease investigation at the Navajo reservation in the Four Corners area. The mystery illness had been spreading, and he was the only person who had been infected. Brown, an epidemiologist with the New Mexico Department of Health, was called back to the reservation to give information on rodents.



Medicine Men Call For Prayers Against Illness

As the illness spread, the Navajo medicine men called for prayers against the illness. They believed that the illness was caused by a spiritual force. They called for prayers to protect the community from the illness.

Deer Mouse May Be Illness Culprit

Tests Show Rodent Is Likely Carrier

By Rex Graham
Journal Staff Writer

In a major breakthrough, test results point to the lewdy deer mouse as the possible carrier for spreading the Four Corners mystery illness that's killed at least 10 people.

DEER MICE POSSIBLE LINK TO MYSTERY ILLNESS

Deer mice, the rodents whose droppings may be linked to the Four Corners mystery illness, can live in a variety of regions of North America, ranging from mountain climates to swampy areas. Sometimes known as white-footed mice, the deer mouse can range from 2 to 8 inches long. The fur on the upper parts of their bodies is gray, with patches of white on the belly.

Rogge Fletcher, regional ecologist from the U.S. Forest Service, said deer mice can be found almost anywhere in New Mexico. They are most common in ponderosa pine regions, and also in mountain sage grassland found in the Four Corners area.

"They will store grass seeds, flower heads, and nuts in hollow logs," Fletcher said. "They will store what's available and what they can carry." Fletcher said the deer mouse is a key indicator of diversity in the ecosystem, since the rodent is a major prey base for larger animals.

Tests Show Rodent Is Likely Carrier

A preliminary report to be released Friday by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says 12 deer mice trapped in and near the homes of some of the mystery illness victims tested positive for exposure to a Hanta virus.

Hantaviruses are known to be carried by rodents, but never before have caused the kind of severe respiratory disease that recently struck about 30 people in New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado and Utah.

The report says 42 rodents of different types were tested, and 12 of them turned up positive for exposure to a Hantavirus. All 12 were of the species *Peromyscus maniculatus* (deer mouse), said the report.

A copy of the report obtained by the Journal also gives another strong piece of evidence that links what researchers think is a new type of Hantavirus with the illness. Hantavirus genetic material was isolated from the tissues of two patients who died recently from the disease.

The findings were made possible by a sophisticated new test called a polymerase chain reaction that can detect tiny amounts of viral genetic material in diseased tissue. Officials also credit unprecedented cooperation between doctors of state and federal health experts for eliminating other possible causes of the epidemic.

For state health workers, many of whom have put in 16-hour days for a month, the CDC report is a watershed.

"We're ecstatic," Dr. Gary Simpson, medical director of infectious diseases for the New Mexico Department of Health, said in a telephone interview Wednesday. "We've come so far so quickly. All of us are tired. A lot of us are still close to patients' families and feel a lot of pain for them."

The tests did not confirm that the same Hantavirus was responsible for infecting both the mice and people. That association will be proved or disproved in the coming weeks.

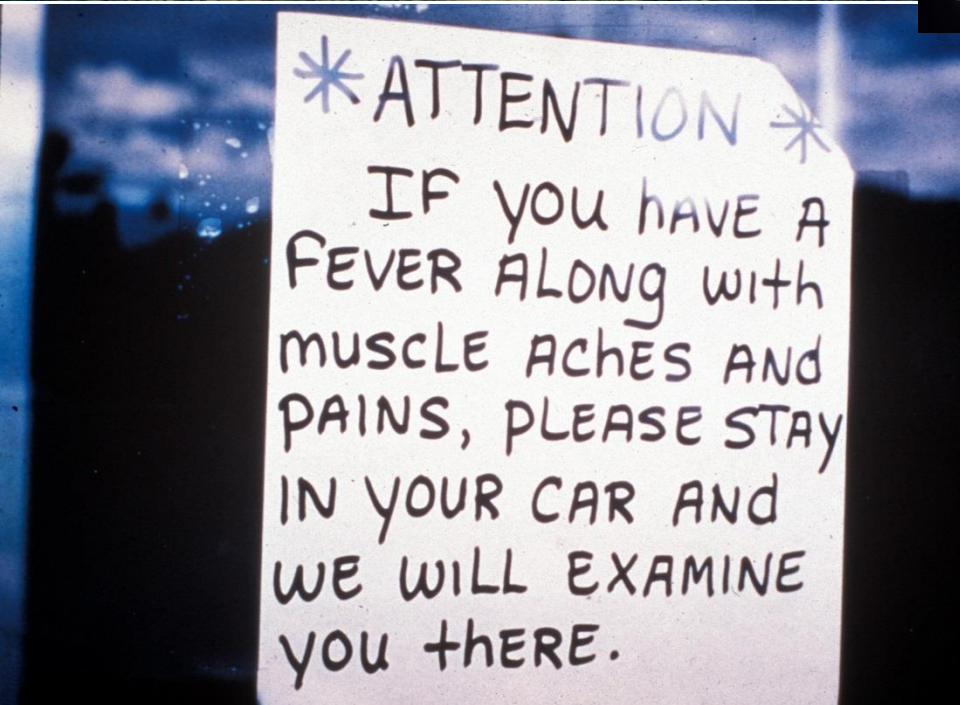
The report also does not shed light on how people were infected. "That's the piece that's still unknown. We still have that piece to figure out," said Dr. Norton Kallishman, chief medical officer for the state Department of Health.

Experts assume the victims became infected by inhaling dust from the droppings of infected mice.

MOJO: New JOURNAL on PAGE A2

MOJO: Navajo face health issue C1

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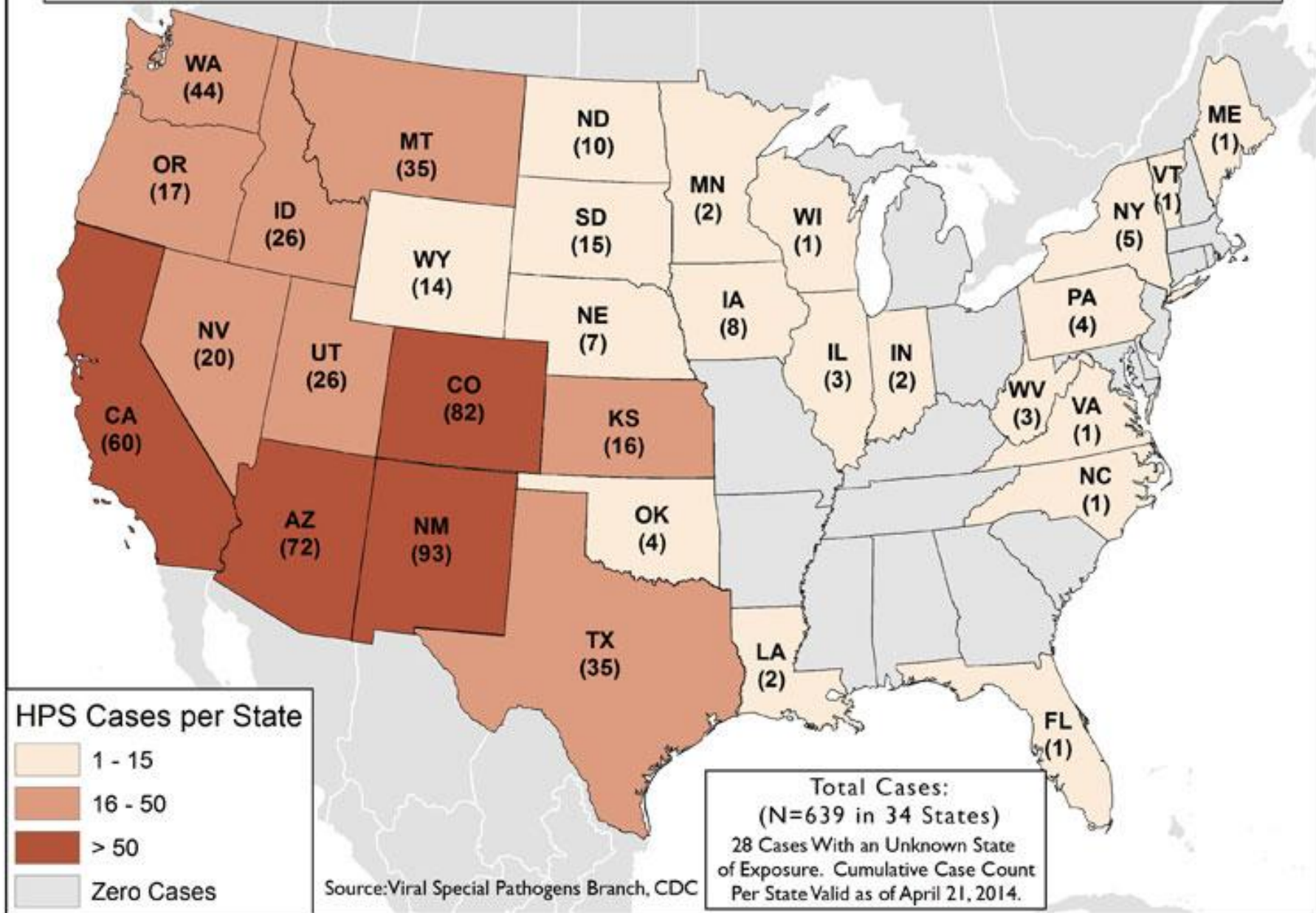
Hantavirus Cases in the United States

- 639 total reported cases to date (4/21/2014)
- 20 - 40 cases reported annually in US
- Most exposures in western US
- 36% fatality
- 17% in AI/AN population
- Outdoor/rural exposures → deer mouse habitat
 - Camping
 - Farming
 - Opening closed buildings
- Ongoing need for education for at-risk groups



**Distribution of Deer mouse
(*Peromyscus maniculatus*)**

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) Cases, by State of Exposure



HPS symptoms: 1 - 6 weeks after exposure

Initial Flu-like illness

- First 1-7 days
- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Nausea
- Diarrhea
- Dry cough

exposure



Respiratory Phase

- Rapid onset
- Bilateral pulmonary infiltrates
- Thrombocytopenia
- Cardiac insufficiency
- Hospitalization and critical/supportive care needed

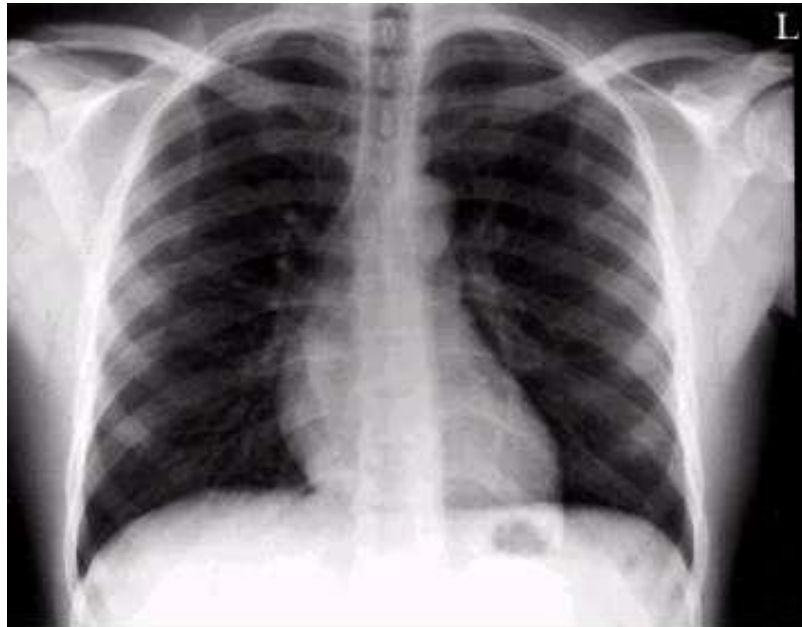
HPS symptoms: 1 - 6 weeks after exposure

Initial Flu-like illness → Respiratory Phase

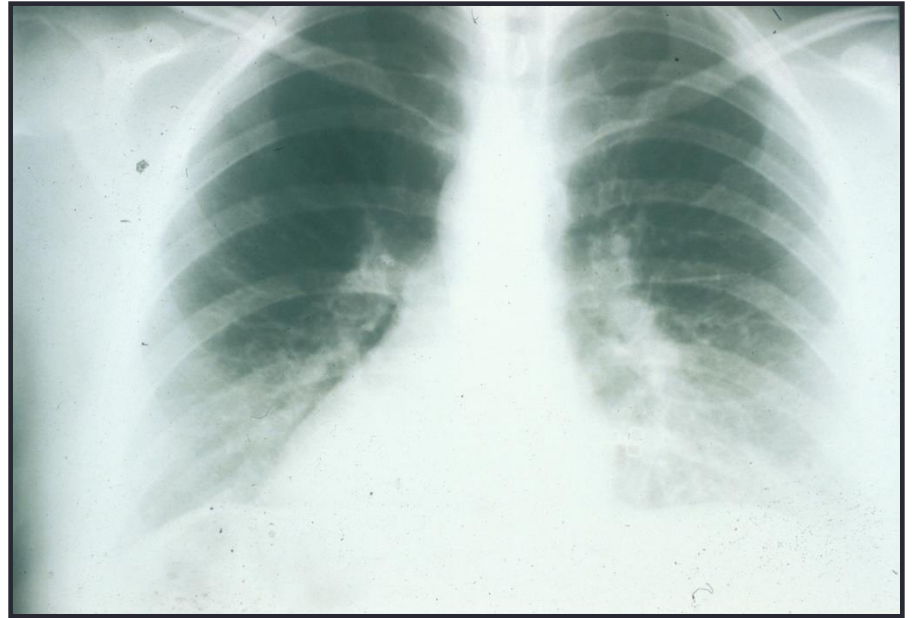
- No person-to-person transmission documented in North America
- *Most* human infections symptomatic

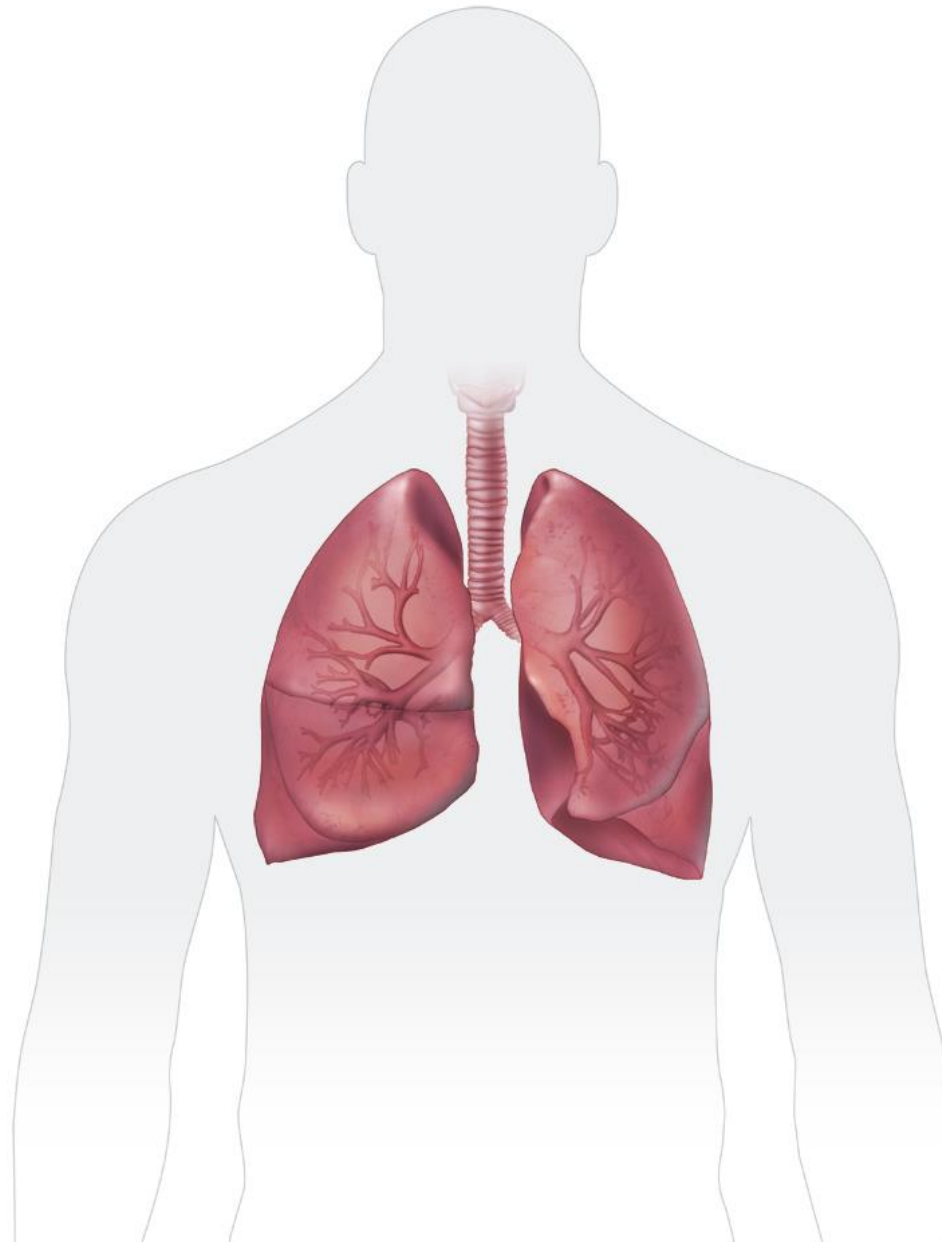
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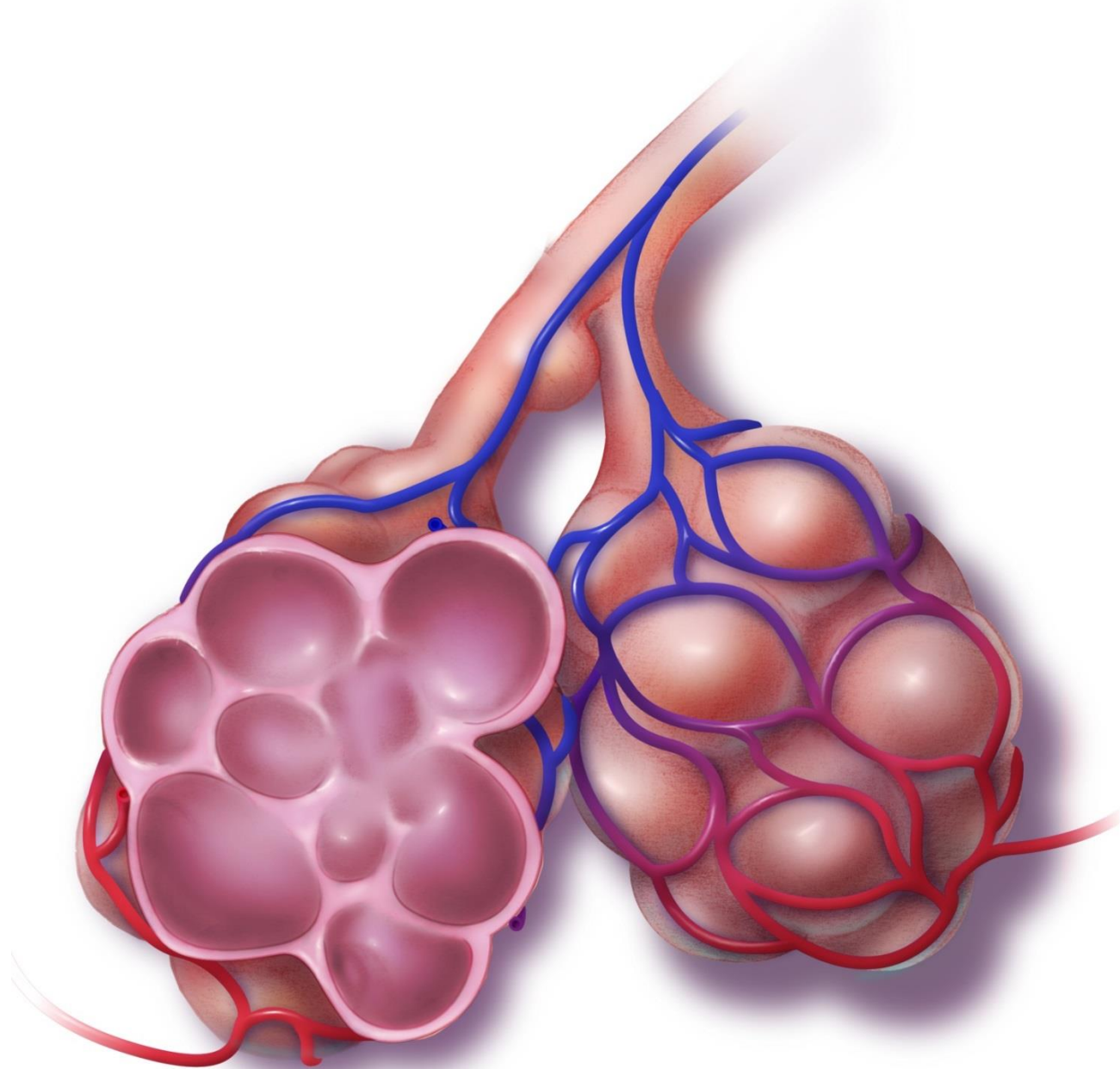
NORMAL Chest X-Ray

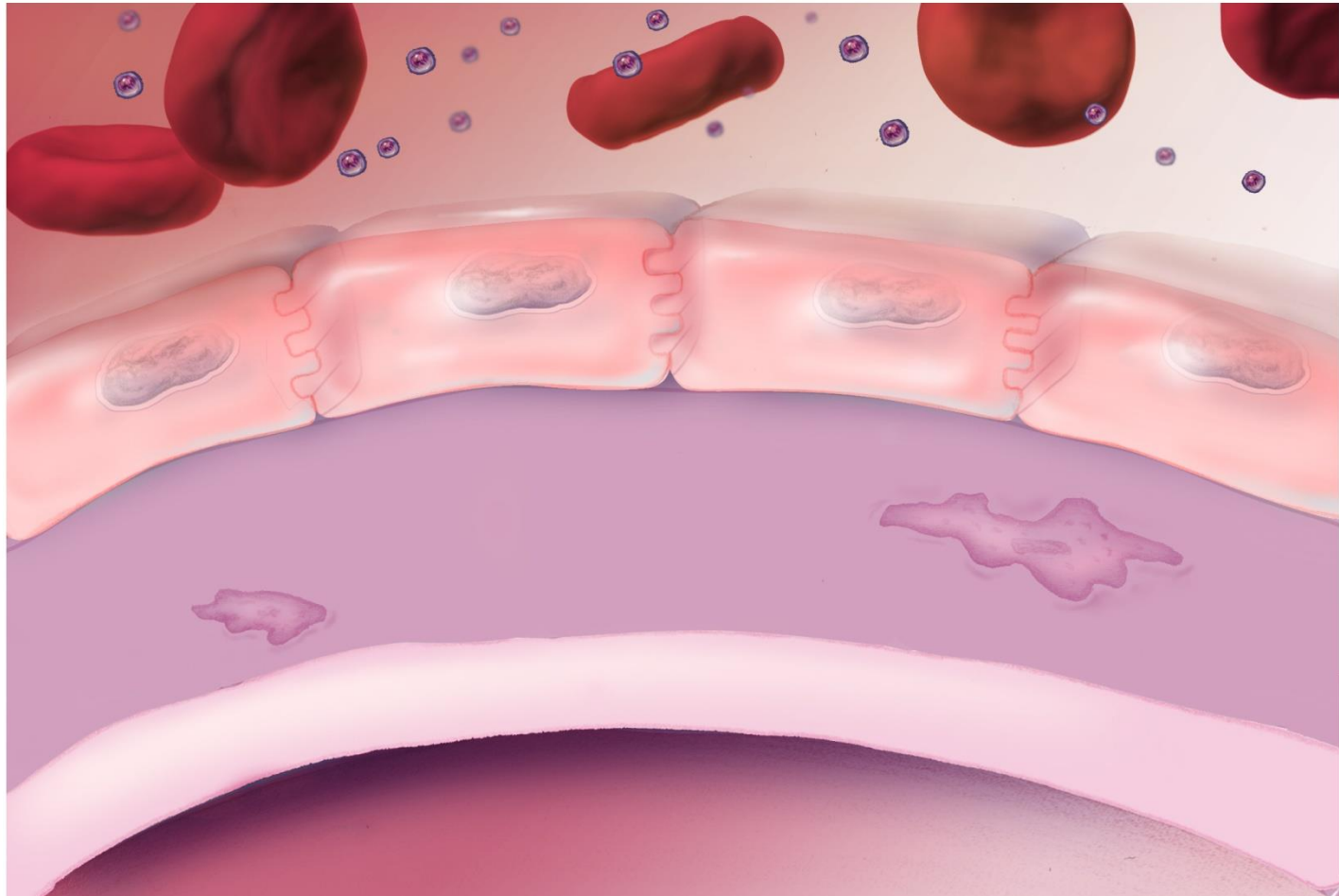


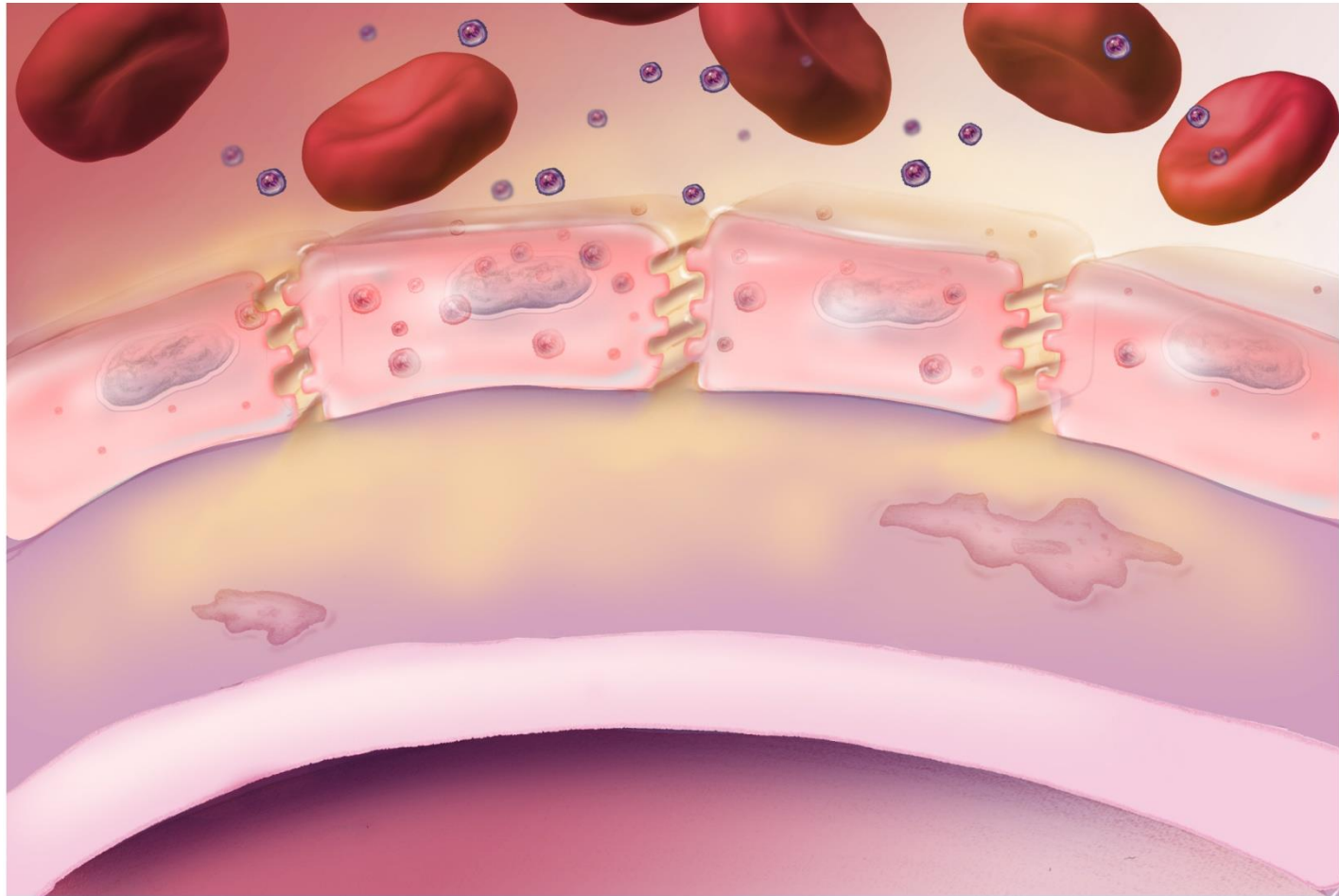
HPS Chest X-Ray











HPS Surveillance and Reporting

- Discovered in 1993
- 'Retrospective' diagnosis of prior cases (serologic evidence back to 1959)
- Notifiable disease in 1995. Case definition developed by Council of State & Territorial Epidemiologists and CDC: clinical case definition, suspect, probable, and confirmed
- HPS Registry:
 - Maintained by Viral Special Pathogens Branch (VSPB) since 1993
 - Systematically collect data on all confirmed HPS cases in the US through Case Report Form

Form Approved OMB No. 0920-0009

Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome Case Report Form

Please return to: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Special Pathogens Branch
Ph: (404) 639-1510 Fax: (404) 639-1118 Email: dvl1spath@cdc.gov
Site: www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/hanta/hrs/frames/phys/specimen/hhdept.htm

Patient Identification

____-____-____-____-____-____
-FIPS- -YR-

Information below is required for identification and meaningful interpretation of laboratory diagnostic results. HPS may not be confirmed without compatible clinical and/or exposure data.

PATIENT INFORMATION		PATIENT'S BACKGROUND and EXPOSURE INFORMATION	
Last name:		Occupation:	
First name:	MI:	Ethnicity:	
Age:	Sex:	History of rodent exposure in 6 weeks prior to onset of illness?	
Street address:		If yes, type of rodent?	
City/town:		Place of contact (town, county, state):	
County:		Notes:	
State:	ZIP:		

TIMELINE

Date of onset of symptoms: Patient hospitalized: Date of hospitalization:

CLINICAL INFORMATION	CLINICAL INFORMATION	SPECIMEN INFORMATION
Fever > 101°F (38.3°C)?	Supplemental oxygen required?	Specimen acquisition date:
Thrombocytopenia? (platelets <150,000/mm)	Was patient intubated?	Type of specimen:
Lowest platelet count measured:	CXR with unexplained bilateral interstitial infiltrates or suggestive of ARDS?	Has specimen been tested for hantavirus at a laboratory?
Elevated hematocrit (Hct)?		If yes, where?
Highest hematocrit measured:		Results (i.e., titer, OD):
Elevated creatinine?	OUTCOME	
Highest creatinine measured:	Outcome of illness?	
WBC total:	Date of death:	
Total neutrophils: %	Autopsy performed?	
Band neutrophils: %	Notes:	
Lymphocytes: %		

FOR STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

State Health Department reporting case: State/local ID number: Date form completed:

Person completing Report: Phone number:

Name of patient's physician: Phone number:

Instructions: You must have internet access and an email address to submit this Form electronically. Upon hitting the 'Submit by Email' button, a PDF is created, attached to an email, which you should then send to the address which appears in the address header; you may also cc others. Acknowledgement of receipt by CDC is not provided.

Public reporting burden of this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to CDC (OPR) Reports Clearance Office, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30333. (2013) OPR, PRA, (2013) 0009.

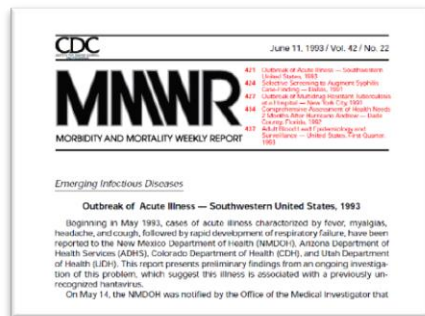
HPS Surveillance and Reporting

States send notification
> 50 diseases in US

Diagnostic sample
sent to VSPB

HPS confirmed at state
or commercial lab

Data limited



HPS confirmed

State reports to
VSPB

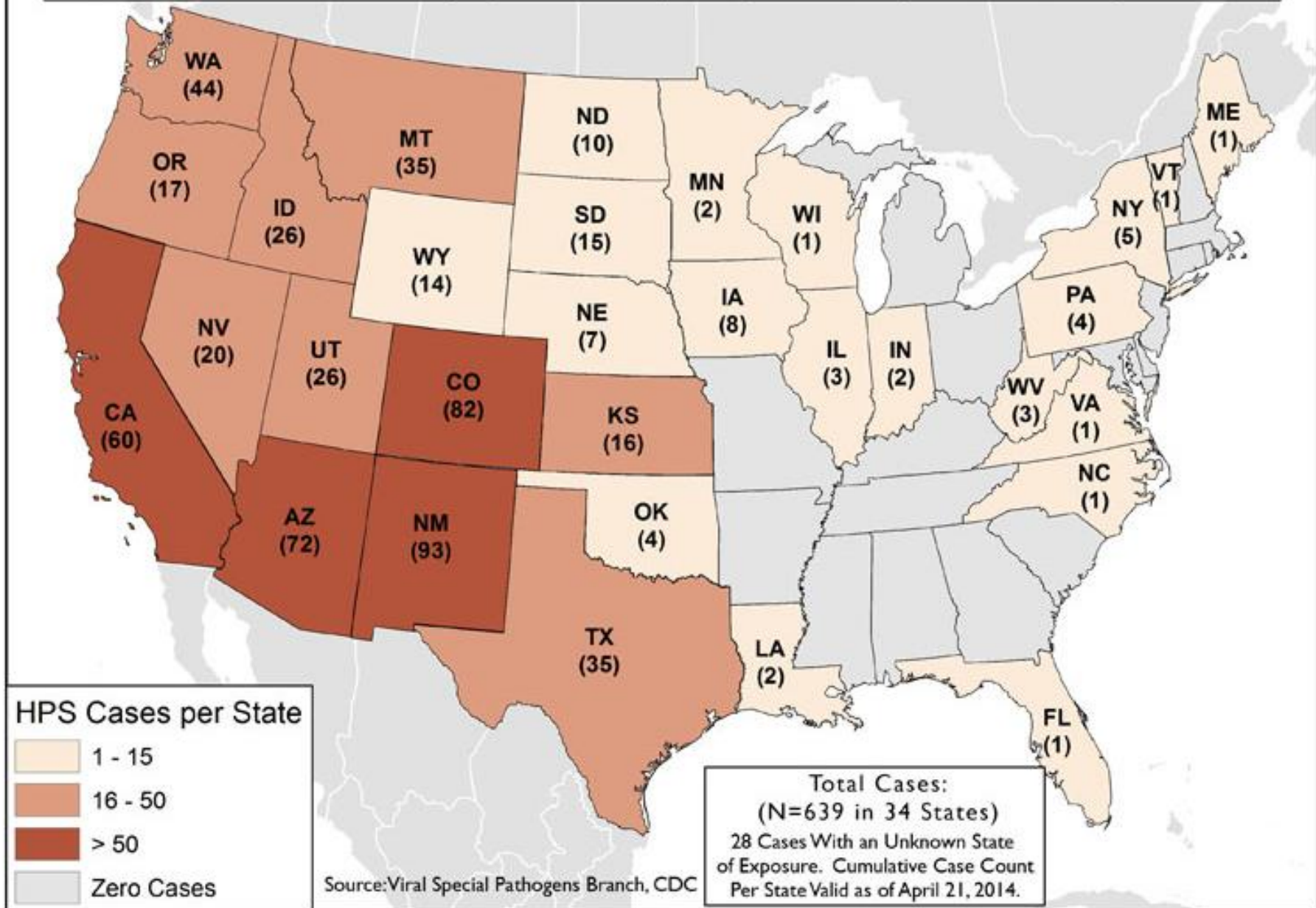
National Notifiable Diseases
(Published in MMWR)

HPS Registry
(Maintained by SPB)

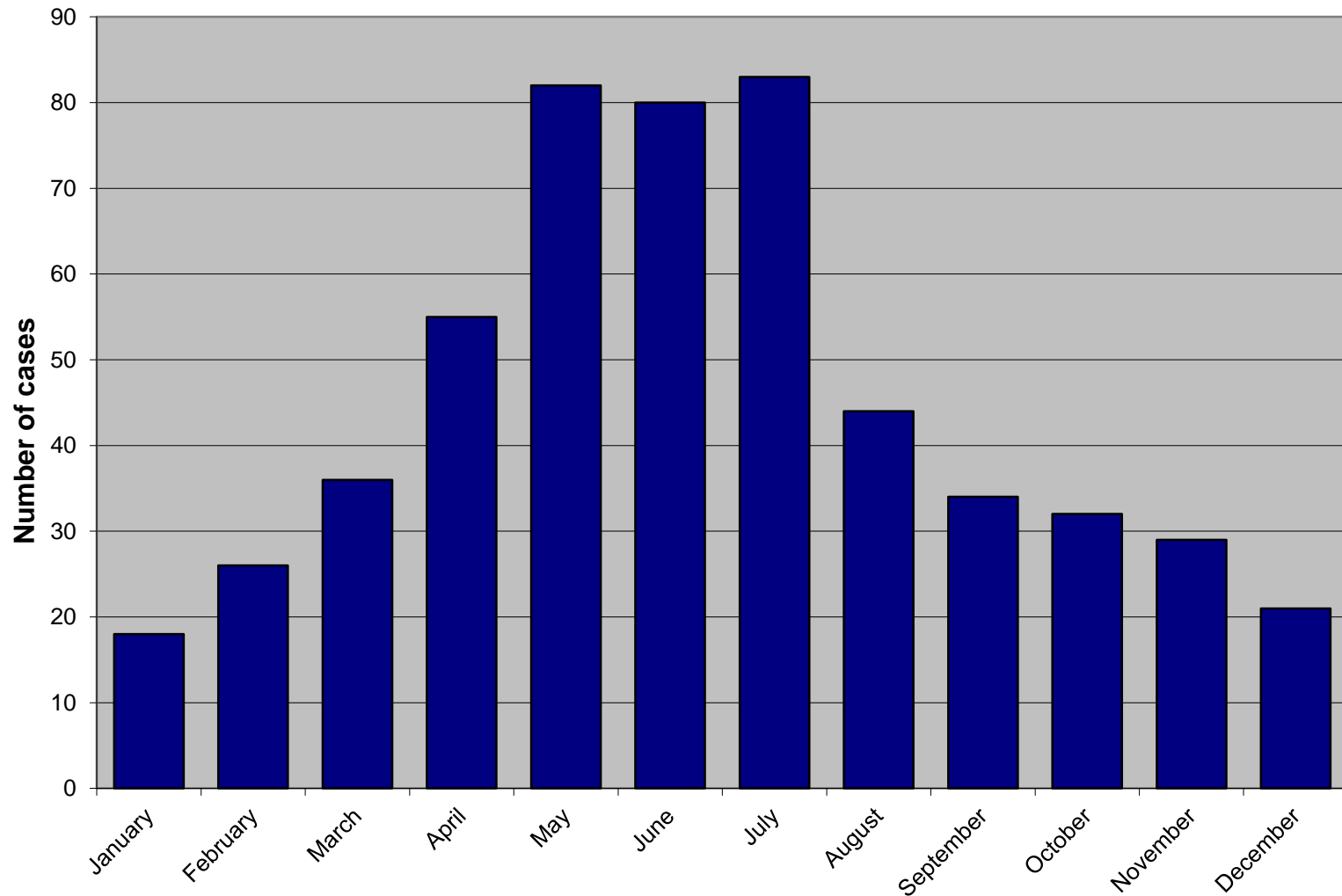


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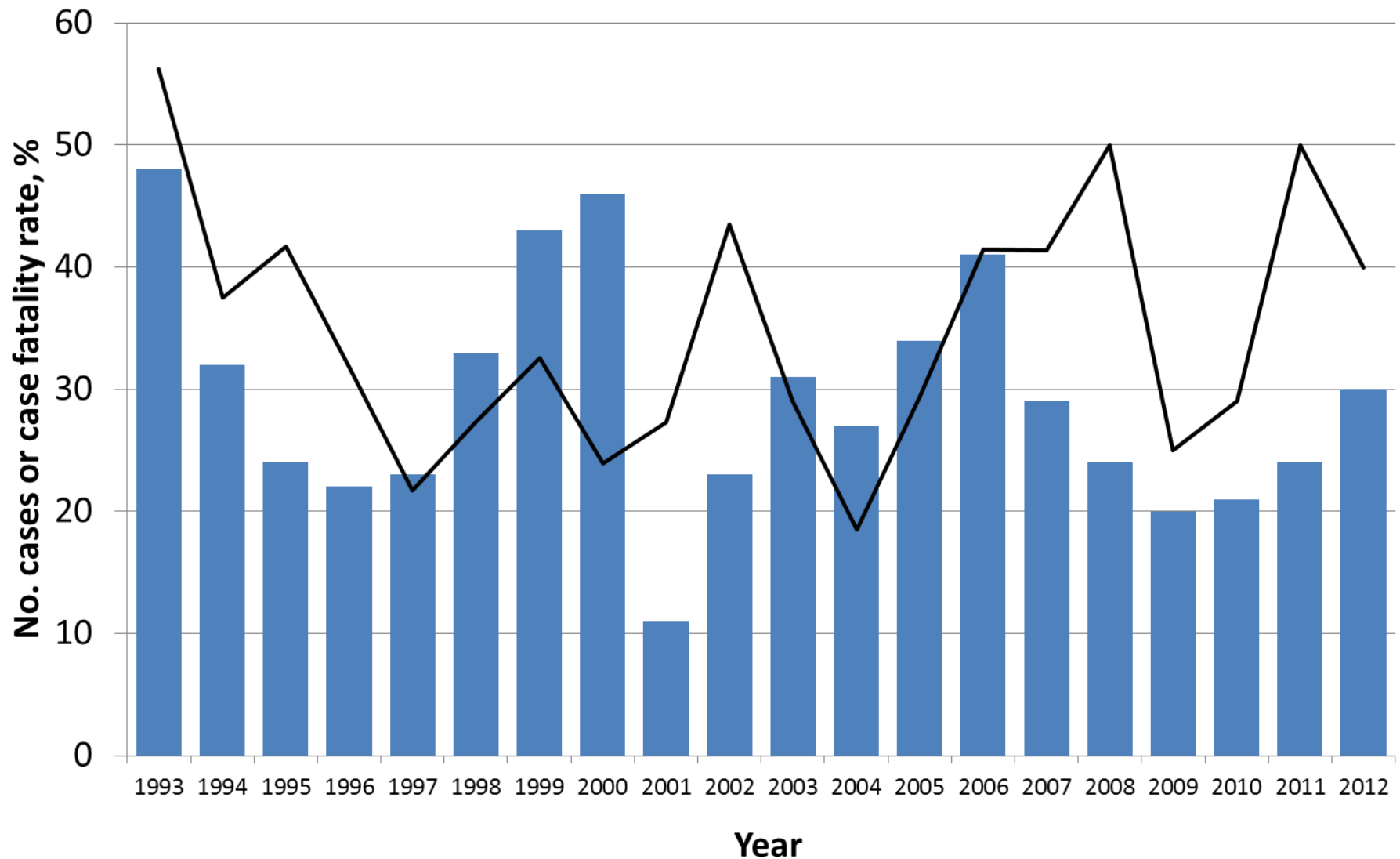
Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) Cases, by State of Exposure



HPS cases by month of onset



Annual US HPS Cases and Fatality, 1993-2012



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CDC Hantavirus Investigation, Yosemite National Park 2012



Summary of Confirmed Cases

- 10 laboratory cases of hantavirus infection
 - 9 had pulmonary symptoms – HPS
 - 1 with mild illness – hantavirus infection
 - 3 cases fatal
- Age Range 12-56 years, 4 females
- 8 were CA residents, 1 from PA, 1 from WV



Yosemite NP stats*:

Visitors in 2011:

4,098,640

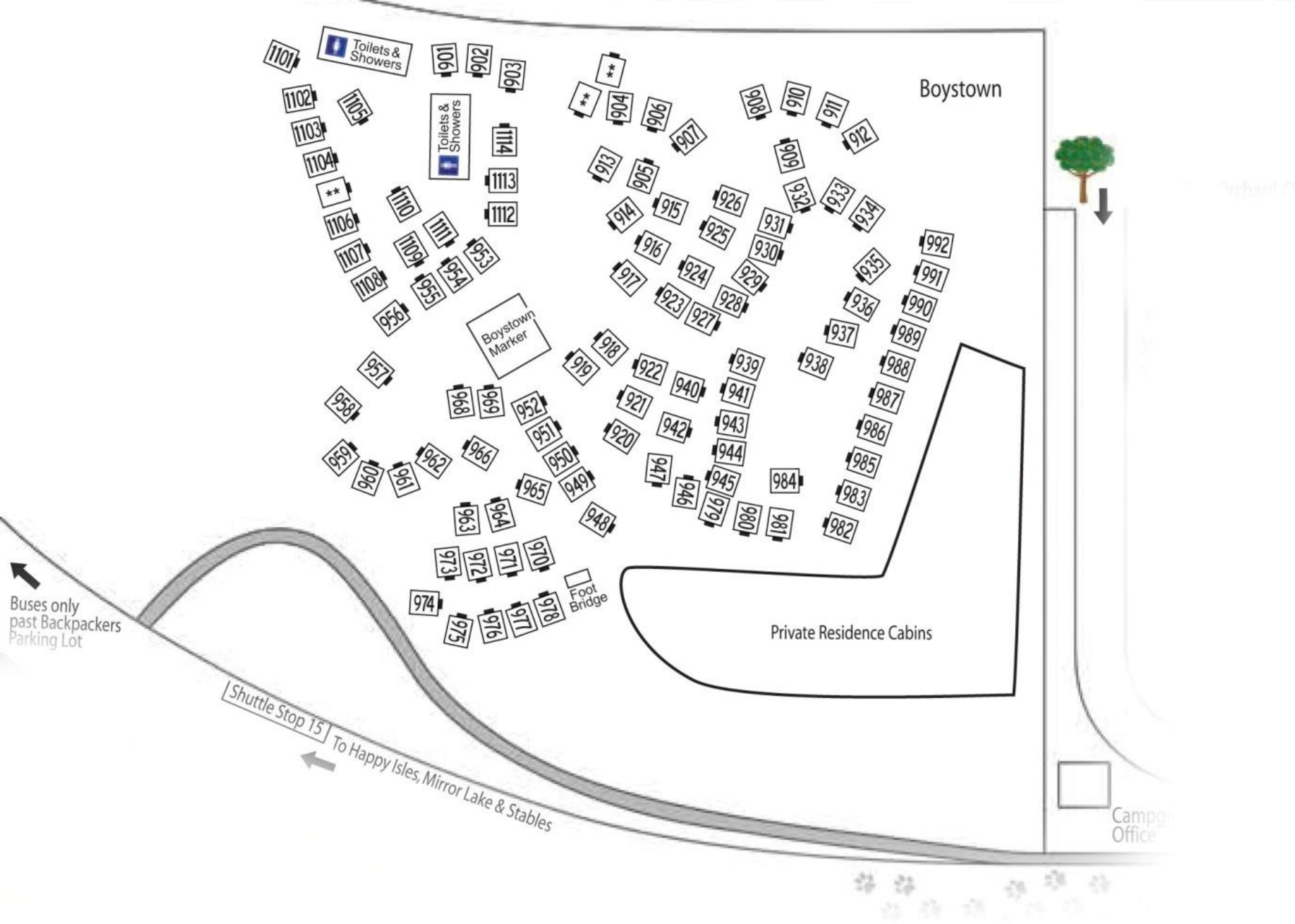
*www.nps.gov/yose/naturescience/park-statistics.htm

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The map illustrates the Curry Village area, featuring various buildings, parking lots, and trails. Key locations include:

- Area Closed - Do Not Enter:** Indicated in several green-shaded areas at the top of the map.
- Buildings and Facilities:**
 - Coffee/ice Cream Corner
 - Dining Pavilion
 - House Keeping Office
 - Shower House
 - Swimming Pool
 - Pizza Deck Patio
 - Lounge
 - Mountain Shop & Mountaintop School
 - Taqueria
 - Gift Shop
 - Private Residence Cabins
 - Stoneman House
 - Forest Office
 - Tour Center
 - Shuttle Stop 130
 - Happy Isles, Mirror Lake & Stables
 - Recreation Center
 - Ten Pin
 - Pool, Bungee & Waterfalls
- Parking Areas:**
 - Boystown
 - Curry Village Parking
 - Private Residence Cabins
 - Registration Parking (at Shuttle Stop 130)
 - Curry Village Parking
 - Private Residence & Employee Parking
- Trails and Paths:**
 - Hike To Happy Isles Trail Head
 - Shuttle Stop 14 To Happy Isles, Mirror Lake & Stables
 - One Way
 - To Happy Isles, Mirror Lake & Stables
- Other Features:**
 - Seasonal Creek
 - Curry Village Parking
 - Private Residence & Employee Parking

[illegible]





340 feet



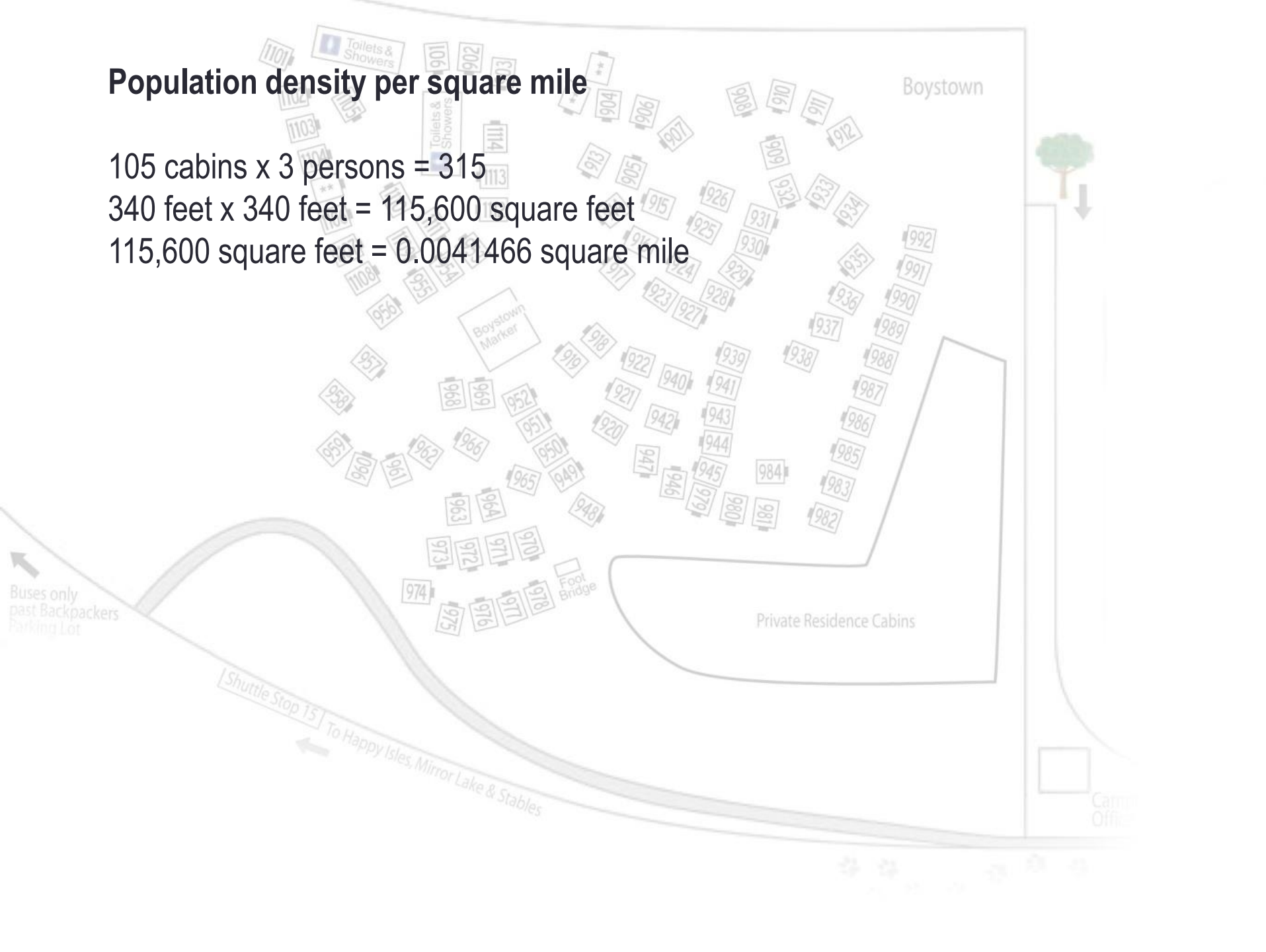


Population density per square mile

105 cabins x 3 persons = 315

340 feet x 340 feet = 115,600 square feet

115,600 square feet = 0.0041466 square mile



Population density per square mile =

105 cabins x 3 persons = 315

340 feet x 340 feet = 115,600 square feet

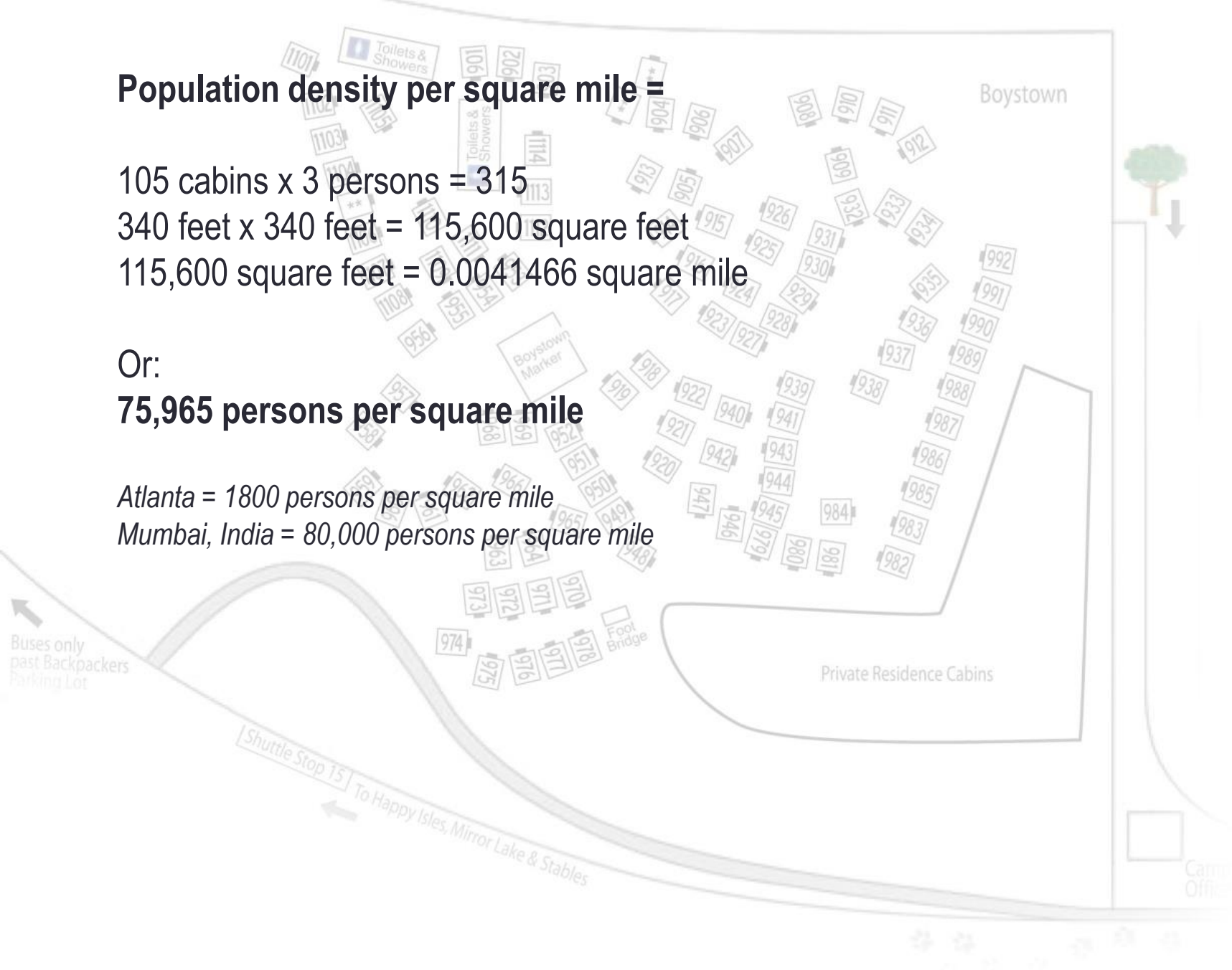
115,600 square feet = 0.0041466 square mile

Or:

75,965 persons per square mile

Atlanta = 1800 persons per square mile

Mumbai, India = 80,000 persons per square mile







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FAQs Regarding Hantavirus Infection in Yosemite National Park for Non-U.S. Visitors to Yosemite

Updated: September 17, 2012

The questions and answers below provide care providers regarding the risk of (HPS) among recent visitors to Yosemite.

Yosemite National Park Hantavirus Infection Epi Curves

Updated: September 14, 2012

Visitors infected with Hantavirus Infection in 2012, by week of onset*

CDC Home
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives. Protecting People.™

A-Z Index A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z #

Hantavirus

Hantavirus

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Hemorrhagic Fever with Renal Syndrome (HFRS)
Reported Cases of HPS
Information for Health Care Workers
Technical/Clinical Information
Resources
Outbreaks

Yosemite National Park

Case Count Maps
Epi Curves
FAQ: U.S. Visitors to Yosemite
FAQ: Non-U.S. Visitors to Yosemite

Hantavirus > Outbreaks

Recommended 447 Tweet 133 Share

Outbreak of Hantavirus Infection in Yosemite National Park

Updated: September 17, 2012

Highlights

- As of September 13, the National Park Service (NPS) has announced a total of 9 confirmed cases of hantavirus infection in people who recently visited Yosemite National Park.
- The visitors to Yosemite are residents of: California (7), Pennsylvania (1), and West Virginia (1).
- Three of the confirmed cases were fatal.
- NPS public health officials believe that 8 of the 9 people with confirmed hantavirus infection were exposed to the virus while staying at the Signature Tent Cabins in Curry Village in Yosemite National Park. The other park visitor with hantavirus infection was probably exposed to the virus while hiking or staying at the High Sierra Camps, located about 15 miles from Curry Village.
- The park is contacting visitors who stayed in the Signature Tent Cabins from mid-June through the end of August, advising them to seek immediate medical attention if they exhibit symptoms of Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS), a rare but serious illness caused by hantavirus.
- The park is also providing information about HPS risks and symptoms to visitors who stayed at the High Sierra Camps this summer.
- On September 12, the park sent an additional notification on HPS to all overnight visitors to the park.
- CDC and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) are working with NPS in responding to the situation.
- The Signature Tent Cabins in Curry Village have been closed.
- CDC is supporting the NPS response with testing of patient samples for evidence of hantavirus infection, providing guidance on clinical management of HPS and epidemiologic support for the response, and maintaining a Hantavirus Hotline for public inquiries.
- The park is providing educational materials about hantavirus and HPS to all visitors to the park.

At a Glance:

- Case Count: 9
- Deaths: 3

FAQ: U.S. Visitors to Yosemite

FAQ: Non-U.S. Visitors to Yosemite

Related Links

- National Park Service (NPS): Hantavirus in Yosemite
- Public Health Department of California (CDPH)
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

Case Count (State of Residence) Map



Epi Curve



Contact Information

CDC-INFO (1-800-CDC-INFO) provides information about hantavirus and HPS to callers in the United States. CDC maintains a Hantavirus Hotline (877-232-3322 and 404-639-1510) and information about HPS on the Hantavirus website.

September 13, 2012

Case Count Update

The National Park Service (NPS) has announced that there are now 9 confirmed cases (including 3 deaths) of hantavirus infection in visitors to Yosemite National Park since June of this year. Eight of the nine individuals with hantavirus infection stayed in Yosemite's Signature Tent Cabins in Curry Village. The ninth person hiked and camped in Tuolumne Meadows and the High Sierra Camps, located about 15 miles from Curry Village.

Update: Hantavirus in Yosemite

From the National Park Service (NPS) website.

Contact Us:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Viral Special Pathogens Branch
1600 Clifton Rd
Atlanta, GA 30333
Hantavirus Hotline
(877) 232-3322
(404) 639-1510
800-CDC-INFO
(800-232-4636)
TTY: (888) 232-6348
cdcinfo@cdc.gov
About VSPB (Viral Special Pathogens Branch)



Jul 1 Jul 8 Jul 15 Jul 22 Jul 29 Aug 5 Aug 12 Aug 19 Aug 26 Sep 2 Sep 9 Sep 16 Sep 23 Sep 30

Week of illness onset

2012. I never had any symptoms after returning. I am not infected?
I visited Yosemite in August 2012. Can I become infected?
I visited Yosemite in August 2012. Can I become infected?

What are the symptoms of Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome, and how long after infection do they appear?
Symptoms of Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome usually appear within 1-4 weeks of infection, but can appear as early as 1 week or as late as 6 weeks after infection.

First symptoms are general and flu-like fever (not if and about headache, abdominal pain, and some back pain. Symptoms of this disease usually develop in the primary muscle of the back (usually in the lower back) and progress to an inability to breathe.

What should I do if I think I have hantavirus infection?
If any combination of the symptoms described above is especially difficult to breathe - especially other than symptoms of the disease usually develop in the primary muscle of the back (usually in the lower back) and progress to an inability to breathe.

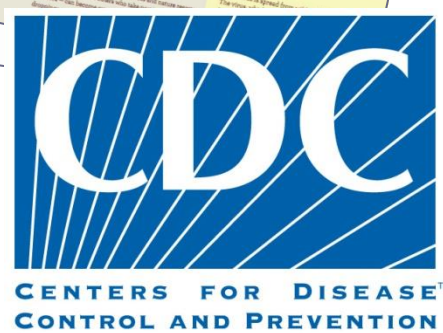
Is there a cure or vaccine against hantavirus infection?
There is no specific treatment, cure, or vaccine for hantavirus infection. However, if confirmed individuals are not seriously ill, they may be treated with fluids and electrolytes to prevent dehydration. In severe cases, patients may require intensive care, including mechanical ventilation during the period of severe respiratory distress.

What is Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (also known as HPS)?
Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome is a severe, often deadly respiratory disease that has been found mostly in the mountain areas of the western United States. The disease is caused by a hantavirus that is carried by rodents and passed on to humans through (1) direct contact with urine, droppings, or saliva of infected rodents; (2) contact with surfaces contaminated with urine, droppings, or saliva of infected rodents; or (3) contact with a rodent bite or scratch.

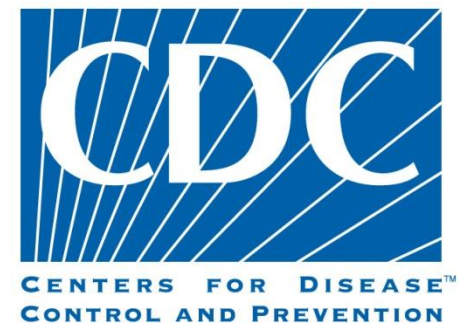
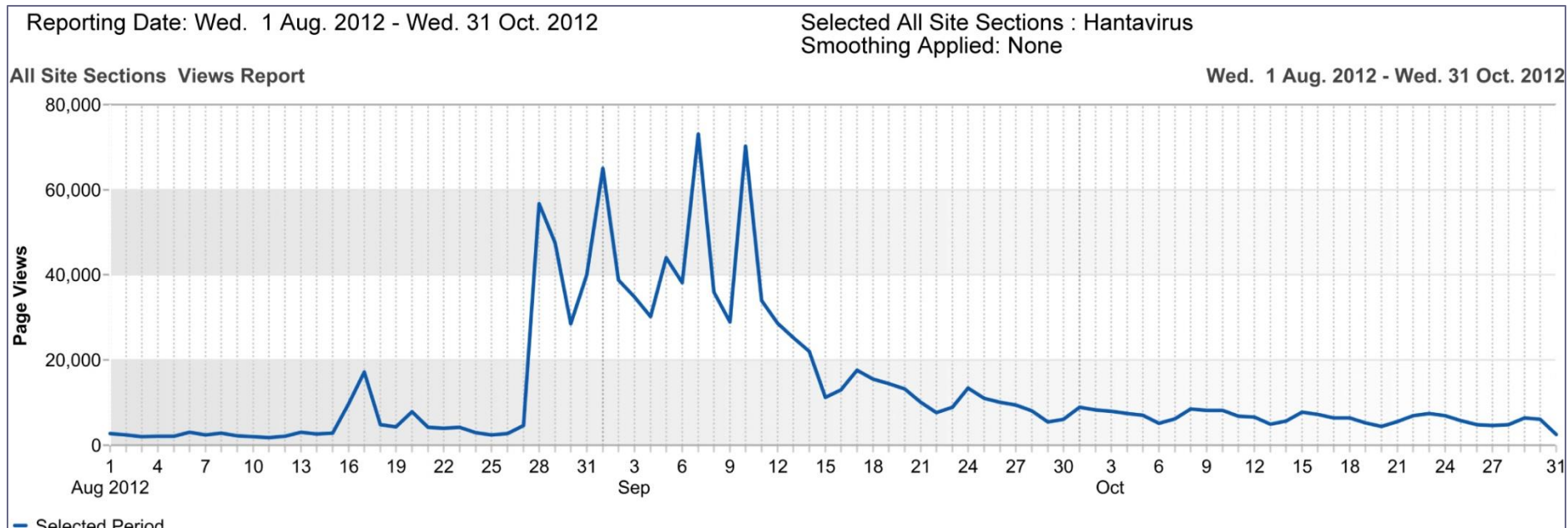
How do I identify rodents, burrows, and droppings?
A mouse or rat is usually a little bit larger than a rat, with a long tail, and a long tail. The mouse or rat is usually a little bit larger than a rat, with a long tail, and a long tail.

Should tourists, campers, and hikers worry about hantavirus infection?
Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome is a rare disease, and most visitors are not at increased risk of hantavirus infection. However, visitors to rural areas and regions where rodents are common should take precautions to avoid infection.

How is the virus spread?
Hantavirus is spread from rodents to humans.



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Hantavirus

Hantavirus

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[Hantavirus > Outbreaks](#)

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Outbreak of Hantavirus Infection in Yosemite National Park

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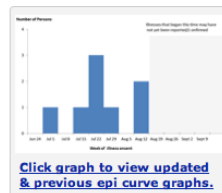
Related Links

- National Park Service (NPS): [Hantavirus in Yosemite](#)
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

Case Count (State of Residence) Map



Epi Curve



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[Print page](#)

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cdcinfo@cdc.gov

[About VSPB \(Viral Special Pathogens Branch\)](#)

CDC 24/7

Saving Lives.
Protecting People.™

LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW
CDC WORKS FOR YOU.

80 calls per day

Hantavirus Hotline
(877) 232-3322
(404) 639-1510
 800-CDC-INFO
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Added 20
'surge'
staff to
handle
Yosemite
calls

September 13, 2012

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[Update: Hantavirus in Yosemite](#)

From the National Park Service (NPS) website.



Prevent Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS)
[PDF - 443KB]
A public information guide for tourists, campers, and hikers.

- I. Introduction
- II. HPS prevention: Clean up, trap up, seal up
- III. Who is the Viral Special Pathogens Branch?
- IV. Hantavirus/HPS refresher
- V. Yosemite HPS 2012
- VI. Health education collaborations with Diné College**
- VII. Next steps

CDC & Diné College health communications collaborations

CDC supports Diné College students enrolled in **Principles of Public Health** (Spring 2013/14) in making video/multimedia health communications products using both conventional and social media.



A trained workforce and
informed citizens

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PUBLIC HEALTH (PUH)

PUH 111 Introduction to Public Health (3)

This course introduces students to all aspects of the field of public health, focusing on health promotion and disease prevention goals designed to establish and maintain healthy communities. The 3 core functions and 10 essential services of public health, as well as reading and lecture materials are organized and presented within the contexts of the Diné educational philosophy. This course is intended to help students become both knowledgeable and culturally competent public health professionals in the Navajo Nation.

PUH 141 Nutrition for Health (3)

Prerequisite: MTH 096 and concurrent ENG 100B.

General concepts of nutrition applied to food choices that support health; cultural, psychological, and economic implications of food choices. Current concepts and controversies in human nutrition. Carbohydrate, protein, lipids, vitamins, and minerals in nutrition, and the relation of nutrition to health throughout the life cycle.

PUH 191 Seminar in Public Health (3)

In this seminar, students are introduced to community health issues (especially in the Navajo Nation) and to problems faced in health care systems and health care delivery. Topics covered may include emergency services, the delivery and referral systems (both tribal and federal), and challenges, including alcohol use and abuse, illicit drug use, and mental health.

PUH 200 Principles of Health Education (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of FST 131 or reading proficiency requirement; PUH 111 and HEE 110 or concurrent enrollment. This course introduces students to the field of health education. It explores social and behavioral theories, and determinants of health behavior of individuals and groups. In their final project students must apply course concepts to design a prospective health education intervention. Course emphases are on health education methods and issues relevant to the Navajo Nation. Guest speakers involved in health education on the Navajo Nation may provide presentations. Content of the course will facilitate application of the principles of SNBH.

PUH 201 Principles of Environmental Public Health (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of FST 131 PUH 111 or ENV 101 or another science class.

This course explores environmental health professionals' roles in ensuring safe and healthy environments, including sanitation, food safety, and occupational safety, and air and water quality. Policies and activities of federal, state, local, and tribal entities are examined, with a focus on Navajo examples. Navajo cultural beliefs related to nature and the environment provide the foundation on which the course is structured.

PUH 202 Uranium and Environmental Health (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of FST 131 or reading proficiency requirement.

This course examines the impacts of uranium and the uranium mining industry on the people and land of the Navajo Nation. The primary emphasis is on environmental public health effects and efforts to remediate them. The course covers comprehensive information on all aspects of uranium, the uranium industry, and the health effects of exposure to uranium.

PUH 241 Human Nutrition (3)

Prerequisite: CHM 130 (recommended).

The principle of human nutrition as it relates to health issues is the primary focus of this course. Emphasis is placed on nutrients and how they affect the human body. The structure and function, digestion and absorption, and metabolism of carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, minerals, and vitamins are discussed. This course also examines energy, weight-management, nutritional requirements of different age groups, U.S. dietary trends, and guidelines for good nutrition and health.

PUH 270 Community Health Assessment and Planning (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of ENG 100B and PUH 111.

This is the first of two courses in which students examine assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation in public health practice. The course focuses on assessment and planning as carried out in epidemiology, environmental public health, health education and promotion, and health services administration. It explores Navajo ways of knowing, defining, and thinking about health problems (Nitsáhákees) and the process of planning (Nahat'á) health intervention programs.

PUH 295 Public Health Sciences (3)

Prerequisite: MTH 110 or MTH 118 and PUH 111

A basic introduction to epidemiology and biostatistics is provided in this mathematics-based course. Students are guided in identifying relevant and appropriate public health data and information sources. A special focus is on relationships of risk factors and disease outcomes, with attention to the health priorities of the Navajo Nation. The course also introduces students to epidemiological research designs and statistics, and ways in which they influence public health decision-making.

PUH 275 Health Services and Policy (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of PUH 111, ENG 101 or concurrent enrollment.

In this course, students are introduced to health services administration and the role of policy development in public health. The course covers national, state, local, and Navajo Nation health services, focusing on how they are organized and administered. U.S. public health services are compared with those on the Navajo Nation and other tribal communities. The course is taught in accordance with the Diné educational philosophy (primarily in the realm of Iná).

PUH 280 Implementation and Evaluation of Public Health Interventions (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of PUH 111 and PUH 270. Completion or concurrent enrollment in ENG 101.

This is the second of two courses in which students examine assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation in public health. The course focuses on implementation and evaluation as carried out in epidemiology, environmental health, health education and promotion, and health services administration. It is taught in accordance with the Diné educational philosophy (primarily in the realm of Iná and Sihasin).

PUH 289 Public Health Emergency Preparedness (4)

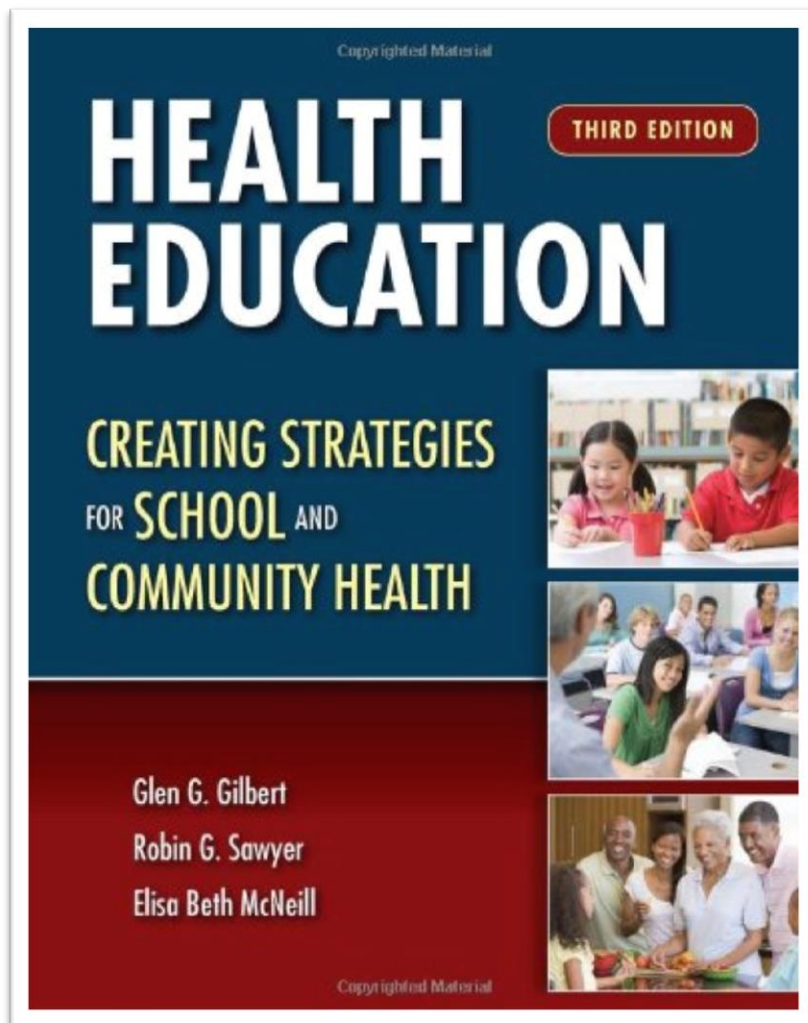
This focused course covers practical knowledge, steps, and considerations relating to preparation for any potential public health emergency in the Navajo Nation. The course is based on online materials originally developed by the Arizona Center for Public Health Preparedness at the University of Arizona, adapted by Diné College to the Navajo Nation environment. There are no prerequisites, but prior completion of PUH 111 is recommended.

PUH 290 Public Health Research Methods (4)

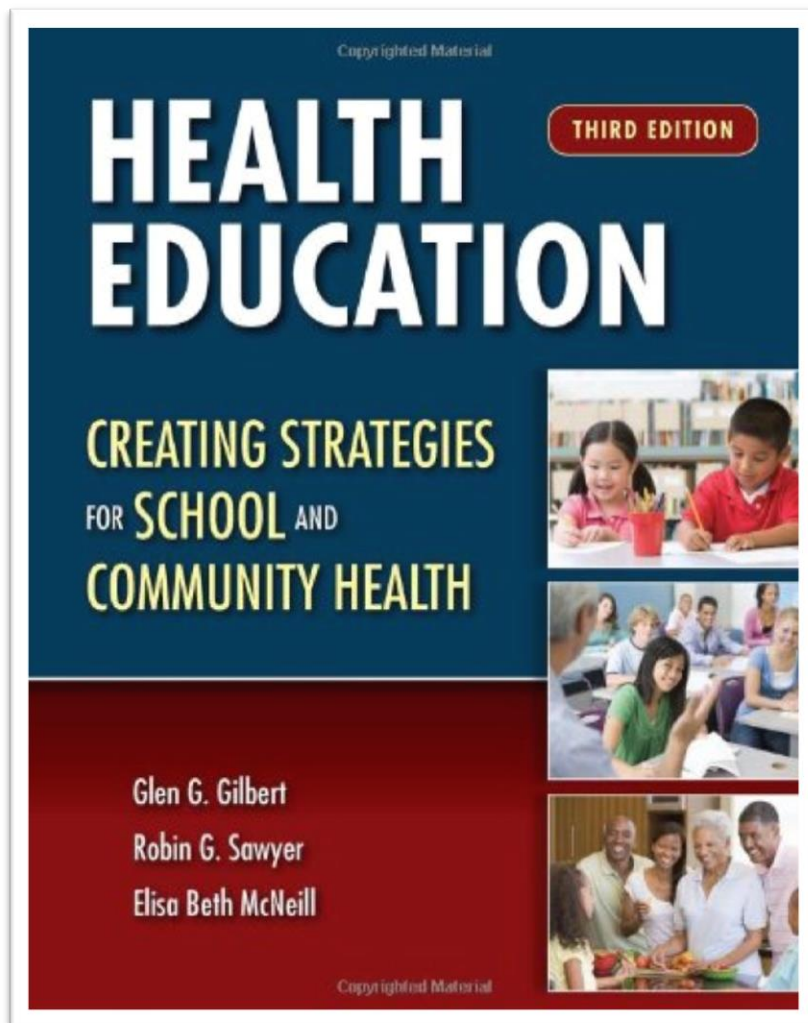
Prerequisites: Knowledge of basic mathematical concepts (MTH 100), Biology (BIO 100 or above), and some computer literacy skills. ENG 101 and a Social and Behavioral Sciences course are recommended.

This research methods course covers basic concepts in public health, health promotion, and disease prevention, including its cultural aspects. The design and implementation of qualitative and quantitative research are covered, including hypothesis development, research design, development of research protocols, data analysis using computer software packages, and presentation of results.





Chapter 1	Introduction
Chapter 2	Planning for Instruction
Chapter 3	Contextual Considerations for Behavior Change: Intervention/Method Selection
Chapter 4	Methods of Instruction/Intervention
Chapter 5	Presentation and Unit Plan Development
Chapter 6	Personal Computers and the Internet
Chapter 7	Use of Media in Health Education: Literacy, Selection, Marketing, Development, and Equipment
Chapter 8	Minority Health
Chapter 9	Special Challenges
Chapter 10	Controversial Topics: Sexuality Education
Appendix	Resources



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Ch 7: Use of media in health education

- From previous chapters, use video to implement a health education strategy, develop source materials for dissemination, and apply a variety of communications methods and techniques to reach our audiences with appropriate health messages
- To do this, we must: state our objectives, define our audiences, determine level, language, content, cultural appropriateness, duration, interest, quality, resources



Why learn about making a video now?

- Connect theory (Ch. 3) to practice (Ch. 7: Use of Media in Health Education)
- Planning can start now
- Learning the tools (cameras, software) and techniques ("video thinking") can start now
- 2008 study by Rideout of "popular entertainment television [being able] to serve as a health educator"

So, how does this work? What's next?

- CDC provides 6 laptops and HD video cameras, with training, for PUH200
- Students form teams to develop **Communication Plans** for their videos, submitting them to Dr Bauer. (Craig will send sample Communications Plans to help.)
- Craig visits Diné College throughout Spring 2013, and for 2 weeks at the end of the semester, to teach and guide students in their projects, and can be reached by email when he's not in AZ/NM.
- Other CDC staff present to PUH200 students on health topics, including hantavirus/HPS.

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Scriptwriting

- Review your Communications Plan document, especially on your audience(s)
- Review your notes from Dr Charley's presentations and the development of Dr Bauer's Communication Plan.
- Choose your approach: narrative, re-enactment, interview, dramatization, documentary
- Design your opening sequence: create interest/curiosity, suspense, open a door, start with audio only, pose a question, show an interesting activity, person.
- Start writing – 2 columns is helpful: left side for direction, right side for words.



Scriptwriting

Script 1: IMPROVING INDOOR AIR QUALITY FOR THE HOMEOWNER	
Visuals: Screening from home air quality	Visuals: A man in a white shirt is talking to a woman in a white shirt. He is holding a small object in his hand. The woman is looking at him and smiling. They are standing in front of a wall with a picture of a house.
Visuals: Images of people using a home air quality monitor	Visuals: A man in a white shirt is talking to a woman in a white shirt. He is holding a small object in his hand. The woman is looking at him and smiling. They are standing in front of a wall with a picture of a house.
Script 2: IDENTIFYING TRADITIONAL LIVING	
Visuals: A man in a white shirt is talking to a woman in a white shirt. He is holding a small object in his hand. The woman is looking at him and smiling. They are standing in front of a wall with a picture of a house.	Visuals: A man in a white shirt is talking to a woman in a white shirt. He is holding a small object in his hand. The woman is looking at him and smiling. They are standing in front of a wall with a picture of a house.
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YouTube

GUIDE

MORE FROM Robert Manning



0:57 / 1:47

Analytics Video Manager

HIV STIGMA - NAVAJO NATION

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5:29

Diabetes 101

5 views 6 days ago



9:29

Food is Medicine

13 views 6 days ago



5:52

NBCS

8 views 1 week ago



3:52

My Movie

12 views 1 week ago



7:59

Motor Vehicle Crash Prevention in the Tuba Ci...

27 views 1 week ago



6:06

Pediatric Diabetes S2014

9 views 1 week ago



2:42

Melissa PUH Domestic Violence

40 views 1 week ago



5:19

Healthy Outcomes for pets and the Navajo people By...

7 views 1 week ago



1:40

TIME TO STOP DOMESTIC ABUSE BY FARRAH

9 views 1 week ago



3:34

Domestic Violence among the Dine Population

17 views 1 week ago



4:56

"Become a DD" -BY:Paulette Begay & Lynn Quinn



10:01

Tuberculosis on Navajo

21 views 1 week ago

- I. Introduction
- II. HPS prevention: Clean up, trap up, seal up
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2013 - 14: Hantavirus/HPS activities planned

- ✓ Video on rodent exclusion for National Park Service
- ✓ Presentations at CSTE meeting in June, 2013
- ✓ Scientific presentations to microbiologists, epidemiologists
- ✓ Diné College public health course participation in HE
- Grand Rounds at NDOH
- Collaborations with Navajo Epidemiology Center

CONCLUSIONS

Strategic

- **Health ed/comm projects do not require NN IRB approval.**
- **Flexibility and patience are helpful.**

Implementation

- Student media literacy is high.
- Integration of new health communications technology tools into public health curricula can be effective.
- Student/CHRs have a solid local understanding of community health issues.
- *Some* students struggled with the technology and messaging; working in pairs helped.
- Repeating the connection between book learning/theoretical instruction and practical activity is helpful for students.



Next steps

-
- REPORT ON NEW MEXICO
NAVAJO MOTHERS AND
THEIR INFANTS, 2000-2004**
- Based on New Mexico Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)
Surveillance Data
- Published by the Navajo Epidemiology Center, Navajo Division of Health

Navajo Division of Health Directory		
Relocation of Administrative Offices effective January 7, 2013		
TEMPORARY PHONE NUMBERS & LOCATIONS		
UPDATED 2-6-13		
Executive Administration	(928) 871-6968	AML Building (temporary)
Public Health Support	Larry Curley, Madan Poudel	Window Rock, AZ
Legislative Affairs	Galye Dine' Chacon, Sonlatsa Jim-Martin	
Public Education & Communication	Charlotte Francis, Ella Nez, Aaron Anderson	
Administrative & Finance Support	Barbara Ahasteen, Thelma Tso	
Management Information Systems	(928) 245-8058 / (928) 245-4254 Art Ledesma, Vernon Livingston	Wellness Center Office Window Rock, AZ
	(928) 729-4490 (505) 870-0117 / (928) 241-1399 Roselyn Begay, Sylvia Haskie, Eddie Bikeddy Muneta, Ernie Yazzie (928) 309-9458 Kimberly Smith	DBHS Agency OTC Modular Building Fort Defiance, AZ
	85	EPA Building, Window Rock, AZ
	6585	EPA Building, Window Rock, AZ
	6585	DBHS Office, Gallup, NM
	6585	EPA Building, Window Rock, AZ
	71-6585	EPA Building, Window Rock, AZ
	871-6698 928-871-6251	Census Building, Window Rock, AZ
	8) 871-7967	Census Building, Window Rock, AZ
	DBHS Administration (928) 729-6240	DBHS Agency OTC Building Fort Defiance, AZ
	DBHS Finance Office (928) 871-7598	Census Building Window Rock, AZ
	DBHS HR Office (928) 871-6267	Quality Inn Complex Window Rock, AZ
Navajo Area Agency on Aging	(928) 729-4520 FAX 928-729-4531	NN Facilities Maintenance Building State Highway 12 #2431 Ft. Defiance, AZ
Community Health Representatives & Outreach	(928) 729-4027 FAX 928-729-4152	CHR Agency Training Center Fort Defiance, AZ
Navajo Special Diabetes Project	(928) 871-6532 NDOH Staff Development/HR: Victoria Davis, Ricky Smith	Log Office behind Navajoland Inn 392 Arizona Hwy 264 St. Michaels, AZ
Navajo Food Distribution	(505) 905-8426	FDP Agency Warehouse Facility East Historic Hwy 66 - 2 miles east of Interstate 40/ Route 66 intersection (mile marker 28) Church Rock, NM

Thanks!

- CDC Office of State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support
- Dr. Gayle Diné-Chacon, UNM
- Ramona Antone-Nez, Director, Navajo Epidemiology Center
- Dr. Mark C. Bauer, Diné College
- Dr. Pierre Rollin, CDC

VSPB contact information:

Craig Manning, Health Communications:

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HPS Prevention

- Clean Up
 - Use gloves and disinfectant to clean up rodents, droppings, or nesting materials
 - Well-ventilated space
- Trap Up
 - Snap traps located properly
- Seal Up
 - Reduce rodent access to buildings, eliminate harborage sites
 - *Most important intervention for prevention*